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PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER

US solons say China bullying neighbors

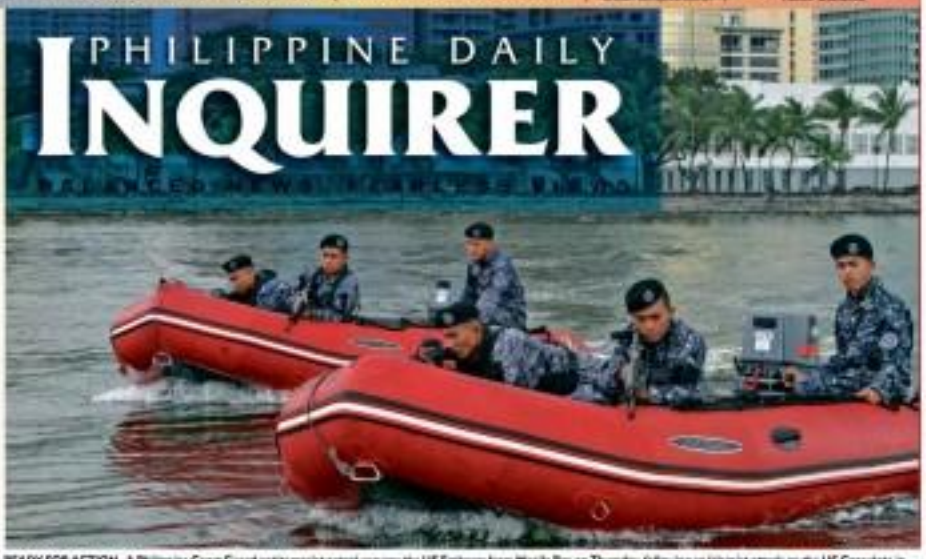
WASHINGTON—US lawmakers on Wednesday accused China of bullying its neighbors to press territorial claims in Asian seas but also raised questions about America's capacity to police the Asia-Pacific region.

Three congressional panels this week are scrutinizing what they consider to be the security threat posed by China and its human rights record.

With the US presidential election two months away, Republican contender Mitt Romney has accused Barack Obama of being soft on China, particularly on trade issues, as he has tried to cultivate ties with the emerging superpower.

But criticism dished out by members of the House foreign relations committee on Wednesday was directed

US SOLONS A8



READY FOR ACTION A Philippine Coast Guard antiterrorist patrol secures the US Embassy from Manila Bay on Thursday, following an Islamist attack on the US Consulate in Benghazi, Libya, that killed US Ambassador Christopher Stevens and three other Americans on Tuesday

US sues top NGO execs

MULTIAWARDED Ms. Cecilia Flores-Oebanda poses with Sweden's Queen Silvia after receiving the World's Children Honorary Award during a ceremony at Gröhsinn Castle in Mariefred, Stockholm, on April 28, 2011

₱210-million aid unaccounted for

By Nancy C. Carvajal

THE UNITED States government has accused the founder and president of Visayan Forum Foundation Inc. (VFFI), a group that has won international accolades for its campaign against human trafficking, of failing to account for P210 million in US aid, the National Bureau of Investigation said.

Based on the complaint of the US Agency for International Development (USAID), the NBI has recommended the prosecution in the Department of Justice of VFFI president Ms. Cecilia Flores-Oebanda, according to NBI antihuman chief Rachel Marfil-Angeles.

The VFFI provides education, shelter and psychological help to victims of trafficking. It receives funds from international donors such as the USAID, the US Department of State, Bill Gates Foundation and Starbucks. (See *In the Know* on Page A4.)

The NBI also recommended

US SUES A4

HOW DID HE DIE? Civilians help an unconscious man, identified by eyewitnesses as US Ambassador to Libya Christopher Stevens, at the US Consulate in Benghazi on Tuesday. Stevens and three members of his staff were killed in an attack on the consulate by Islamists outraged by a US-made Internet video allegedly mocking Islam. AP

Rifle deal triggered Puno's fall at DILG

By Christian V. Esguerra and Leila B. Salaverria

AN ADMINISTRATION insider revealed to the Inquirer that President Aquino personally asked Undersecretary Rico E. Puno to resign as early as July over the allegedly overpriced M4 rifles that the Philippine National Police wanted yesterday was shoved aside.

According to the source, Puno's resignation had nothing to do with his purported "raids" on the officers of the condominium apartment of Jesse Robredo less than 24 hours after the plane carrying the secretary of the Department of the Interior and Local Government disappeared on Aug. 18 off Masbate and an intense search for the aircraft was in progress.

The source stressed it was all about the gun deal that Mr. Aquino said he found overpriced when he searched Google on the Internet. Mr. Aquino said this in an interview with reporters in Vladivostok, Russia, on Saturday at the side-

MRLE A12

PNP orders rebidding of assault rifles contract / A12

LIBYA ATTACK

US vows justice, sends Marines to Tripoli

BENGHAZI, Libya—The United States dispatched an elite group of Marines to Tripoli on Wednesday after the US ambassador to Libya and three other Americans were killed in a mob attack that reverberated around the world.

US officials were investigating whether the violence was a backlash to an anti-Islamic video with ties to Coptic Christians, or a plot to coincide with the anniversary of the 9/11 attacks.

Tuesday's stunning attack on the US Consulate in Benghazi poses a daunting task for US and Libyan investigators. Searching for the culprits in a city rife with heavy weapons, multiple militias, armed lo-

US HOMES A12

Security outside US embassies tightened / A12

No-shows in Miriam show today

By Cathy C. Yaneza

THERE may be no-shows in Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago's scheduled blockbuster today and she says it may be all Malacañang's fault.

None of the 11 members of the Senate committee on constitutional amendments and revision of codes and laws, which Santiago chairs, had confirmed attendance in its inquiry today on the activities of erstwhile Interior Undersecretary Rico E. Puno.

At least one Cabinet member, Justice Secretary Leila de Lima, has declined the invitation to attend the hearing.

De Lima yesterday said she had sent a letter of regrets to Santiago saying the inquiry conflicted with her schedule for the day. She told reporters that she had to attend two important meetings at the Palace and that she had not received authorization from President

NO-SHOWS A12

Apple unveils lighter, more powerful iPhone 5

SAN FRANCISCO—The new iPhone that Apple unveiled on Wednesday does not have the biggest screen of any smartphone on the market, nor is it the first to offer Internet access over the latest, speediest wireless networks.

Apple executives say that does not matter. They care more about building the best phone, they say, and combining technologies into the most attractive package—not being first with the latest bells and whistles.

"I feel the need to be the

APPLE A4

DOT reinvents 'dyip' to boost tourism

By Tina G. Santos

ART MAY help the Philippines' original "King of the Road" reclaim its old glory.

And the Department of Tourism (DOT) has a hand in it, of course, to let foreign tourists know that "it is more fun to travel in the Philippines."

According to Assistant Tourism Secretary Domingo Ramon Enerio, 50 dot jeepneys in the cities of Manila and Makati will be transformed into "works of art and culture" by painting them with designs featuring the Philippines' cultural heritage and tourist attractions.

The effort centers on the DOT's

DOT REINVENTS A4

NEWS
Palace denies hand in reported Senate coup / A2
Couple who abused maid end up behind bars / A27

WORLD
Only 2 days into job, Somali president survives attacks / A30

BUSINESS
AG&P, Texas firm set up infra venture / B1

LIFESTYLE
Bridal makeup trends at Face-Off 2012 / I1

WEATHER FORECAST

Baguio	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly with Rain
Dagupan City	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly with Rain
Laoag	Mostly Cloudy	Tacloban
San Jose	Mostly with Rain	Isla. Jesus
Tuguegarao	Mostly with Rain	Cabanatuan
Legazpi	Mostly with Rain	Antipolo City
Tagaytay	Mostly with Rain	Quezon

Second FRONTPAGE

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6/42
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draw 20 5
draw 16 16

SUERTRES
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6 4 6
2 4 2

SIX DIGIT
9 2 5 5 4 7

6/45 LUZ-MIN-MIN
8 9 19 28 38 42
P14,946,004.80

SUPER LOTTO 6/49
5 8 19 21 23 45
P75,734,348.40

LOTTO, 6/42 Tues-Sat LOTTO, 6/42 & 6/45 Sat

We don't want Enrile out–Palace

By TJ Burgonio and Norman Bordadora

DON'T look at us.

Malacañang on Thursday denied having a hand in the supposed move to oust Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile, saying that the latter remained a good ally who pushed many of President Aquino's agenda in the Senate and should stay on as its leader.

"We have a good working relationship with the Senate President," said Secretary Ochoa Lacierda, presidential spokesperson, in a Malacañang briefing.

Lacierda said the ruling Liberal Party (LP) also denied any part in a supposed plot to oust Enrile and that Enrile himself had cleared the party.

"The Senate President himself announced that the LP was not involved," said Lacierda.

Enrile confirmed having received information about a plot to oust him as early as a month ago.

He said a number of senators were unhappy with the way he was running things, including allocating budgets and positions.

But he said the plot against him was "personal" and did not involve Senate power bloc like the Liberal Party and the Nacionalista Party (NP).

Talk of a Senate coup also cropped up on the heels of Sen. Aquino's announcement of a coalition of the three major parties—LP, NP and the Nacionalista Party's Coalition (NPC)—for the May 2013 elections.

Effective ally

Enrile, Lacierda stressed, remained an effective administration ally even though he was against the reproductive health (RH) bill and the sin tax bill, both of which were supported by the Aquino administration.

The President's differences with Enrile on the RH bill and the sin tax bill were not enough reason for LP to move for his ouster, Lacierda said.

"No, not to my knowledge," he added.

"We've seen a very healthy relationship with the Senate," he stressed, when asked if Malacañang preferred that Enrile stay on as its leader.

Another Malacañang official, also an LP member but who sought anonymity for lack of authority to speak, said he also was not aware of a plot against Enrile, believing that the Senate President had made his resolution to preempt any outer moves against him.

"It was meant to preempt any plans, but I'm not aware of any plans," said the official, who added though that the administration's allies could remove the votes to oust Enrile if they wanted to.

Sen. Sheilla Lacson said yesterday that with Enrile himself talking about it, any plot had been virtually trapped in the bud.

Lacson said Enrile has been supportive of the President's agenda as shown by the Senate's passage of the synchronized election bill in the two-session Congress to Muslim Mindanao and in the successful removal of Chief Justice Renato Corona.

Height of ingratitude

Lacson, an ally of both the President and Enrile, said "it will be the height of ingratitude if [the LP members] were strong with the plot to oust the Senate President. And it might create more problems than solutions."

"If the Senate President goes to the minority [and] becomes legislative agenda and the bills the administration are pushing may further be derailed," he said.

Preemptive move

For his part, Senate Minority Leader Alan Peter Cayetano admitted having differences with Enrile but denied taking part in or even knowing of a plot to oust him.

Cayetano agreed Enrile's revelations could be a ploy to preempt any moves to oust him amid the heated discussions on certain bills now going on in the upper chamber.

"I am in the minority and the minority would want to become the majority. But [any plot] would not come from us because there are only three of us," said Cayetano in a phone interview with the Inquirer.

"I have disagreements with the Senate President on some issues but I never questioned his leadership," added Cayetano, an NP member.

Cayetano is the brother and party mate of RH bill author and sponsor, Sen. Pia Cayetano.

Enrile is a member of the Pwersa ng Masang Pilipino (PMP) which in turn has coalesced with Vice President Jejomar Binay's PDP-Laban in the opposition United Nationalist Coalition (UNA).

Cayetano said the administration-coalition has since clarified that it was only out to get rid of Sen. Juan's pork and not to work a change in the Senate leadership.

"There's no active plot. I don't see people talking about it," he said.

UK not hiring nurses, on FB or anywhere

BEWARE of advertisements to assist medical nurses enticing Filipino nurses to apply for jobs in the United Kingdom.

This was the warning issued yesterday by the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA), saying that the UK was not actively hiring Filipino nurses.

POEA Administrator Hans Leo Cacdac said he received information from the Philippine Overseas Labor Office (POLO) in London that there was no active hiring of nurses in the UK at present.

He said labor attaché Jane Lourdes Lavilla alerted the POEA about a Facebook (FB) account named Dinks Mermaid Philippines, which allegedly used to recruit Filipino nurses and other medical professionals.

Cacdac said Dinks Mermaid Philippines had no valid license from the POEA and was not allowed to recruit or deploy Filipino workers overseas.

He said that to avoid being duped by illegal recruiters, Filipino applicants wanting to work in the United Kingdom may visit http://uklm.homeoffice.gov.uk/visa-immigration/working/ for useful information about working in the UK and how to get visas for various work categories.

Brock Santos

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US sues top NGO execs in alleged aid fraud

From page A1

the filing of charges against HVH directors, finance officers, bookkeepers and other employees.

Angeles said charges of falsification of documents were filed against the respondents on Sept. 6, based on the complaint of United African topical agent in charge of the Europe and Asia Office of the Inspector General (USAID), the testimony of two solidarity laborers and locals of falsified documents seized in a raid on the HVH office in Calauan, Quezon City.

The affidavits likewise said HVH fabricated the receipts and contracts to justify the expenses charged against the P200 million donated by the USAID.

False receipts

Angeles said P210 million of the P300 million from the USAID remained unaccounted for. However, after a close audit of the receipts by [41] million had been faked," said the NBI sentinel chief.

Angeles said the NBI probe had established that the order to manufacture the fake receipts came from the VHH president.

"In a meeting, the bookkeepers, including the whistle-blower, were allegedly ordered by its president to fake receipts to fill in the gap of misappropriated expenditures," she said.

Laurence Arnao, lawyer of the HVH, denied the NBI findings and said that a former VHH employee could be behind the falsification of documents.

"The VHH did not manufacture false receipts, and if ever there indeed was questionable receipts it must have been the work of the bookkeeper who has responsibility over these papers," Arnao said.

'Ridiculous'

The lawyer also described as "ridiculous" the statement of the bookkeeper that it was Debanda who had ordered the figures presented to manufacture fake receipts to meet USAID audit requirements.

"Kalokohan, Cecile as president appointed expenses reports submitted to her by the bookkeeper and does not go over all the receipts of expenses submitted to her," Arnao said.

"If ever, there was an anomaly, it was committed by the bookkeeper who are instead to cross-examine during the preliminary investigation," he said.

'Betrayed'

The VHH lawyer said his client had expressed disappointment over what the USAID Inspector General has done.

"She felt betrayed by the USAID which she said was her partner for six years and had even given her awards for her anti-human trafficking advocacy," Arnao said.

He said his client had filed a motion to quash the NBI search warrant used to raid the HVH office on Aug. 31.

According to Angeles, 12 boxes of various receipts were seized from the HVH office during the raid.

Part project

Angeles described the white-lie Gimenez as a former bookkeeper of the barangay and an auditor hired by USAID in aside the Funds Assistant" (ass VHH for its "Part" project for 2009-2011.

In her narration to the NBI, the bookkeeper said that from March to April 2008, uniforms from ALE Medina and Co. accredited to HVH, were produced a total audit of the USAID Funds.

The whistle-blower testified with two bookkeepers, finance officer and another employee were allegedly summoned by Debanda to her office and ordered to "Fill the gap of the liquidations."

The former NBI bookkeeper said "they were instructed by Debanda to fill the unliquidated cash advances with supporting receipts."

Copy suppliers' receipts

In her sworn statement, she said that in 2006, Debanda instructed her staff to copy official receipts from different suppliers, which they would try to be used for the liquidation of the CA and.

"Seventy percent of the disbursements of the USAID funds were not supported by documents, which prompted the falsification and tampering of the receipts to support the liquidation," the whistle-blower said.

She added that Debanda had instructed that "the amount to be liquidated in the official receipts would depend on the amounts of cash advances received, and to be liquidated."

The whistle-blower said that if the receipts were complete, a liquidation report was accomplished and thereafter attached to the cash advance to indicate the amount taken from the funds.

Provisional receipts

She also alleged that Debanda had ordered the purchase of provisional receipts from landowners to cover material expenses for cash items as sanitary napkins, soaps and other personal needs, and cell phone load.

"There provisional receipts have been part of the liquidations as attached to the vouchers," she said.

Scotch tape

The former VHH bookkeeper further said that receipts, which had been used in other audits, were being recycled to be used for future audits.

"The dates and the amounts indicated in the official receipts were altered by using scotch tape," she said.

Angeles said, "The tampering and the alterations were very obvious and scotch tape marks were visible based on our analysis."

No beneficiaries

The other whistle-blower, an auditor, said an initial audit found that funds from the operational budget were disbursed without real beneficiaries, and lacked adequate supporting documents, transaction authorization and approval.

The auditor said purchases were made without obtaining the required three quotations from accredited suppliers. Also discovered was the lack of segregation of duties.

Report to DSWD

He noted that there were alterations on receipts and invoices, inconsistencies with dates indicated in vouchers and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) segregations in the payroll system, and insufficient records attestation.

The auditor added there were disbursements without supporting original receipts and invoices from suppliers and vendors.

The supporting documents for vouchers were photocopied documents, not original documents, cash vouchers and ordinary receipts that can be bought easily from bookstores were passed on as receipts.

The auditor added that alterations on supporting documents, liquidation invoices and original invoices and liquidation forms were made.

Liquid erasers

She noted that certain HVH employees abused the duties of transactions using liquid erasers.

The employees altered the invoices by adding another number in the amount paid, she added.

For cash receipts, she said, the audit showed that certain employees intentionally cut the portion where the date was indicated to avoid detection.

IN THE KNOW

FOUNDED by Ms. Cecilia Flores-Oebanda in 1988, the Visayan Forum Foundation Inc. (VFFI) is a Manila-based organization that pushes programs and policies to curb modern-day slavery and empower vulnerable migrants such as victims of human trafficking and exploited domestic workers.

With 11 offices in 26 provinces around the country, the VFFI coordinates with authorities to prevent human trafficking and provides support and protection for the victims.

The organization also forges alliances with various organizations and provides resource materials crucial for policy making.

For its work, the VFFI has been cited by the International Labor Organization-International Program on the Elimination of Child Labor and the United Nations Girls Education Initiative as an international best practice.

In 2005, the US Department of State recognized the VFFI as one of the international best practices for its anti-trafficking partnership with the Philippine government and private shipping companies.

Debanda, VFFI founding president and executive director has also been cited for the impact of her work.

The Anti-Slavery International, the world's oldest human rights organization, gave Debanda the Anti-Slavery Award in 2005. The British government also named Debanda one of the Modern Day Abolitionists in the celebration of the Bicentenary of the Abolition of the Slave Trade Act in 2007.

In 2008, Debanda was named by the US Department of State as one of its Heroes during its First Modern-Day Slavery in its Trafficking in Persons Report. In 2010, the US Department of Labor presented her the first Iqbal Masih Award for the Elimination of Child Labor.

Debanda was also one of the honorary awardees of the 2011 World's Children's Prize for the Rights of the Child, and was recently presented the Fire Centre Award 2011 by Caritas Internationalis for her fight against child prostitution, child trafficking and child labor. **Inquirer Research**

Sources: Visayan Forum Foundation; Inquirer Archives

Apple unveils lighter, more powerful iPhone 5

From page B1

ison," Timothy D. Cook, Apple's chief executive, said in a conversation after the event announcing the new device, the iPhone 5.

"We don't view our products as a checklist of features," he added.

The new iPhone has a larger, 4-inch screen, faster wireless Internet speeds and a more powerful chip than the previous version of the company's smartphone. It is 18 percent thinner and 20 percent lighter.

Display altered

This is the first time Apple has altered the dimensions of the iPhone's display, which has measured 3.5 inches diagonally since the original iPhone was released in 2007.

While the display is that size measured diagonally, it is actually taller compared with the size screens on most cell phones. Apple's competitors have been far more aggressive in pushing bigger displays on their smartphones, with some screens approaching 5 inches.

Apple said the new display offered a bigger canvas for activities like reading books, browsing websites and watching movies.

The device will also work on the faster variety of high-speed data networks with wireless carriers, known as LTE, which other companies have included in their products for some time.

Even though the product is not as startling as the original iPhone — the likes of which had not been seen before in the electronics industry — analysts still expect the iPhone 5 to be a hot seller this holiday season.

Investors seemed to agree, sending Apple's shares up 19.22, or 1.8 percent, to close at $605.75 after the event.

The device, which will go on sale on Sept. 21, will start at $199 with a two-year wireless contract, a price similar to previous versions.

More voice moves

In what could be one of Apple's more vexing moves with a new product, though, the company got rid of the 30-pin connector that has been the standard for attaching the iPhone to power cables, stereo docking stations and other peripherals, replacing it with a smaller connector it calls Lightning.

The change means owners of existing iPhone accessories will have to buy an adapter from Apple so they can plug the new phone into those devices. The adapters are on sale at the Apple store for $30 for one version and $40 for another.

Apple said it made the change to ensure the new connector was more versatile, freed space for other technologies inside the iPhone and enabled the iPhone to thinner design.

The company said many of the functions of traditional iPhone cables, other than charging, were now handled by wireless connections like Bluetooth.

In a brief interview after the event, Philip W. Schiller, Apple's senior vice president of worldwide marketing, said the company was offering the adapter to try to make the shift to the new technology as painless as possible for its users.

"At some point you have to move to the next generation," he said.

Best experience possible

Michael Gartenberg, an analyst at Gartner, said the iPhone 5 showed how Apple approached new technologies conservatively and it was more a careful, refined the best experiences possible.

The five phones that supported LTE, for example, were often criticized for poor battery life, but Apple waited until it could offer a product that could hold a charge long enough, he said.

APPLE'S new iPhone 5 (left) and previous generation 4S are displayed in San Francisco, California, during the introduction of the new iPhone on Sept. 12. AFP

In the new product, Apple also chose not to support near field communication wireless technology, which could be used to make wireless payments but that had been slow to take off.

Cook said the 4-inch display was the perfect size because it could be easily held in one hand. Apple made the screen taller, but not wider, than the previous generation of iPhone for that very reason, he said.

Dividing line

The new iPhone shows how the dividing line between phones and tablet computers is becoming fuzzier.

Apple is developing a new model of the iPad with a 7.85-inch display that it could announce before the start of the holiday shopping season, according to people with knowledge of the project who declined to be named discussing confidential plans. The current iPad's display is 9.7 inches.

Apple's closest rival in the smartphone market, Samsung, has experimented extensively with various sizes. Its Galaxy S III smartphone has a 4.8-inch display, while its Galaxy Note tablet has a 5.3-inch screen.

The iPhone 5 is a more significant overhaul of the design of Apple's smartphone than the iPhone 4S. That product was criticized by some for merely incorporating improvements inside a device that looked nearly identical to its predecessor.

Even so, the iPhone 4S went on to be a big seller.

Apple said it'll sell its iPhone 4S, dropping its starting price to $99 with a two-year contract, for the iPhone 4 will be free with a contract.

New, faster chip

The new, faster Apple-designed chip in the iPhone 5 will let users open a music, load music and interact with other Apple services more quickly.

Game developer Electronic Arts showed a photo-realistic car-racing game running on the new device with graphics that closely resembled those of high-end console systems.

The iPhone 5 has a new feature in its camera that will allow users to easily stitch together many images into a panorama, a feature that has been available in some apps and standalone digital cameras for some time.

Revamp of some products

Apple also announced a revamping of some products that have received less attention in recent years...its iPod media players and iTunes software.

It redesigned the iPod Nano with a bigger screen that supports multitouch gestures. And a new version of the company's most popular iPod, the Touch, will come with the same 4-inch display as the new iPhone. The new iPod Touch will also support Siri, Apple's voice-activated assistant, and will come in a variety of colors.

Anticipation for the new iPhone was high ahead of the event, as usual. The world of rumors was so intense that Apple said they were barring sales of rumored iPhones, leading to a rare earnings disappointment from Apple.

The iPhone has become a gold mine for Apple, accounting for $ 56.2 billion in sales, or 46 percent of Apple's revenue, during the quarter that ended on June 30.

Growing competition

But the company has faced growing competitive pressures, most notably from Samsung of South Korea, which extended its lead over Apple during the second quarter.

Samsung accounted for 32.6 percent of global smartphone shipments in the period, compared with 16.9 percent for Apple, according to IDC, a research firm.

Most of Samsung's share of the smartphone market comes from products that run Google's Android operating system, which powered 68.1 percent of the smartphones shipped worldwide in the second quarter, IDC estimated.

Apple's share of the phone market, though, often gets a big boost over the holiday season and in the quarter immediately after the company introduces a new iPhone. Wall Street analysts expect that pattern to continue with the new iPhone.

Apple is also fighting Samsung in courtrooms, contending that the company violated Apple patents.

Last month, Apple won a huge victory in the most significant of the legal fights against its South Korean rival when a jury in a federal court in San Jose, Calif., awarded Apple more than $1 billion in damages. Samsung has said it will appeal the decision. **New York Times News Service**

DOT reinvents 'dyip' to boost tourism

From page B1

promotional theme, "It's More Fun in the Philippines."

Glory days

"We want to bring back the glory days of fun and vibrant jeepneys. This is an opportunity for us to be proud and pay homage to the Philippine jeepney as a true icon of Filipino artistry, ingenuity, resiliency and entrepreneurship," Ferrer said at the launch of the Jeepney Arts Festival at the International Hotel in Makati City yesterday.

Jeep in Brazil

The festival is an upscale social responsibility project of Hop On, Hop Off Travel Inc. in cooperation with the DOT and Designwerk Philippines. It aims to rehabilitate the jeepney as a Philippine cultural icon and celebrate Filipino artistry.

Ferrer, who is also the vice chief operating officer of the Tourism Promotions Board, cited the story of a representative of a Brazilian company who traveled to the Philippines and saw the jeepney.

"That company brought the Philippine jeepney to Brazil, and is now using it as a mode of transportation," Ferrer said. "[The jeepney is our] pride, [and] we can share with the rest of the world," he said.

"Who will paint the jeepney?

According to Oleng Garcia, managing director of The Jeepney Arts Festival, any Filipino can volunteer to paint the jeepneys.

Painting on the spot

"The 24-day-spot jeepney painting aims to foster the spirit of camaraderie, where foreign people together to unleash their creative excellence for art and do their own share in restoring" the jeepney, Garcia said.

The jeepney painting will be held on Sept. 28-29 on the SM Mall of Asia Open Grounds behind the SMX Convention Center.

Participation is free. The materials will be provided with painting materials.

Training program

"The design must depict the country's rich cultural heritage, fascinating destinations, accompanied attractions that make it more fun to travel around the Philippines," Garcia said.

She said the project would involve jeepney drivers and operators.

"It seeks to engage the participating jeepney drivers and operators to attend a comprehensive training program in values formation, culture of tourism, passenger handling, road ethics, road safety tips, eco-awareness," she said.

To be interested may visit www.JeepneyArtsFestival.com.

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THE LANDMARK

MAKATI TRINOMA

Belmonte pushes amendment period for delayed RH bill

By Leila B. Salaverria

LAWMAKERS must push through with the period of amendments in House Bill No. 4244, or the reproductive health (RH) bill, to be able to come up with a definite version of the measure, according to Speaker Feliciano Belmonte.

Belmonte yesterday said it is difficult to speak of a definite RH bill because so many amendments have already been introduced and people may actually be referring to different versions of the bill when they talk about the controversial measure.

"I want to see the period of amendments progress so we could come up with a definite bill, not just someone that is described any way a person wants to describe it," he added.

The RH bill has hurdled a long-winded period of debates in the House of Representatives, but earlier attempts to begin the period of amendments were stalled because opponents of the measure had invoked their right to hold privilege speeches.

BELMONTE

Another version

In an attempt to defuse growing tension over the bill, lawmakers agreed to form an informal working group composed of supporters and opponents of the bill, as well as Catholic bishops who are among those who are very critical of the measure.

The group would try to come up with a compromise version of the RH bill that the House would put to a vote after it returns from its break next month. The group would also include hard-liners who find it difficult to compromise.

The RH bill seeks to provide contraceptives and family planning service to Filipinos in order to reduce maternal deaths and allow families to determine the number and spacing of their children. It also provides mobile health clinics, barangay health workers and emergency obstetric care.

One of the proposed amendments to the measure is to limit the distribution of contraceptives to the poorest of the poor families identified by the National Household Targeting System, who are believed to be the ones who need them the most.

The Daily Gospel

Friday, September 14, 2012
Triumph of the Cross

1st Reading: Num 21:4b-9

From Mount Hor they set out by the Red Sea road to go around the land of Edom. The people were disheartened by the journey and began to complain against God and Moses. "Why have you brought us out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is neither bread nor water here and we are disgusted with this unwholesome manna."

Yahweh then sent fiery serpents against them. They bit the people and many of the Israelites died. Then the people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned in speaking against Yahweh and against you. Plead with Yahweh to take the serpents away."

Moses pleaded for the people and Yahweh said to him, "Make a fiery serpent and set it on a standard. Whenever a man was bitten, he looked toward the bronze serpent and he lived.

Responsorial: Ps 78:1b-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38

Though he was in the form of God, he did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking on the nature of a servant, made in human likeness, and in his appearance found as a man.

He humbled himself by being obedient to death, death on the cross.

That is why God exalted him and gave him the name which constitutes all names, so that at the name of Jesus all knees should bend in heaven, on earth and among the dead, and all tongues proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel: John 3:13-17

Jesus said to Nicodemus, "No one has ever gone up to heaven except the one who came from heaven, the Son of Man.

"As Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"Yes, God so loved the world that he gave his only Son that whoever believes in him may not be lost, but may have eternal life. God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but, through him the world is to be saved."

Reflection

The cross of Christ reverses every value. What we call failure is exalted as success, and the cross, what we call shame is crowned glory, and vice versa, what we call death is exalted the source of new life. It is the central event or pattern of our faith. So we can say as consequence the lying is not a well as a deceptive, part of the interior disorder of sinners. But it is not part of anything. On the contrary, it puts everything in question.

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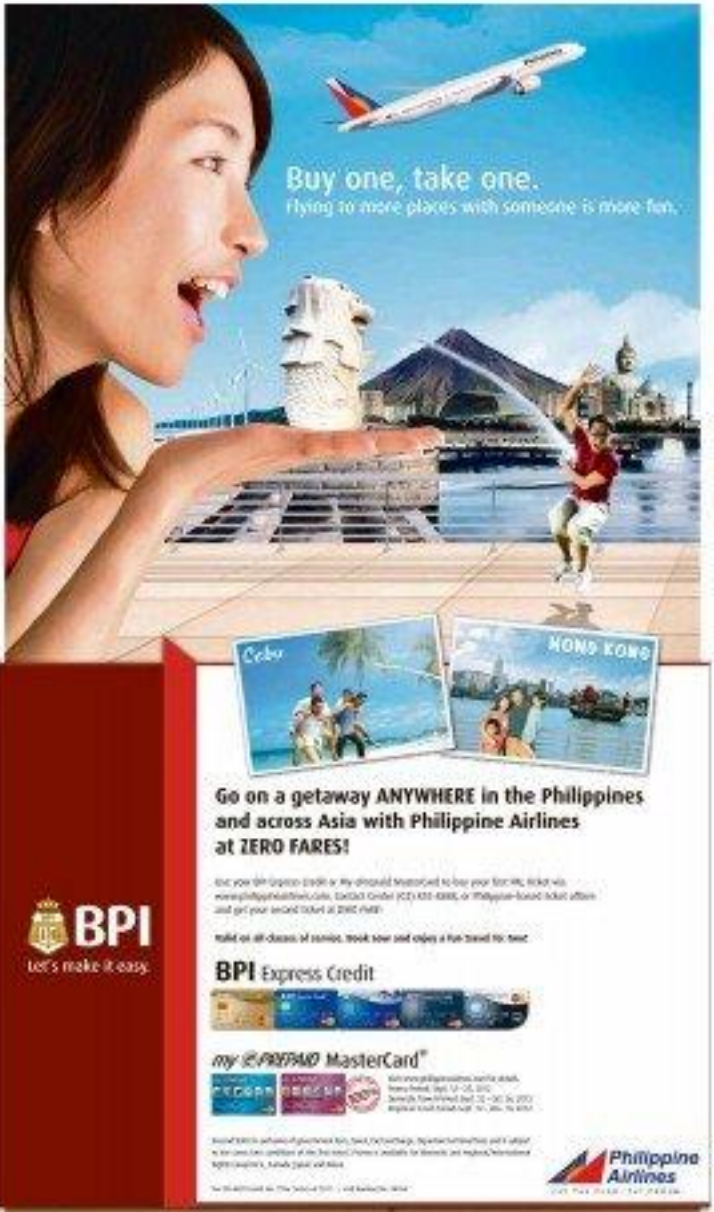

No need to amend baselines law, says Palace

By Michael Lim Ubac

MALACAÑANG yesterday said President Aquino's order renaming waters within the country's exclusive economic zone (EEZ) West Philippine Sea would not require the amendment of the Archipelagic Baselines Law.

Signed by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo in 2009 and upheld by the Supreme Court last year, the Archipelagic Baselines Law defines the boundaries of the Philippines, but does not cover the Kalayaan Island Group in the Spratly archipelago and Panatag Shoal (Scarborough Shoal) in the West Philippine Sea.

The law classifies those islands that the Philippines disputes with China as a "regime of islands" in accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Unclos).

On Sept. 5, Mr. Aquino signed Administrative Order No. 29 renaming the waters in the Luzon Sea and the waters "around, within and adjacent to the Kalayaan Island Group" and the Panatag Shoal West Philippine Sea.

Those areas are recognized as the Philippines' EEZ under the Unclos.

It is not clear, however, whether the Kalayaan Island Group is within the West Philippine Sea. The Palace has yet to determine whether those islands in the Spratlys that the Philippines claims are within its EEZ.

Presidential spokesperson Edwin Lacierda pointed out that use in a briefing for reporters at the Palace yesterday that's renaming the area the West Philippine Sea is a "regular way" for the Philippines in the exercise of sovereignty over what has always been its territory, Lacierda said.

Mr. Aquino's order states that as provided under the Unclos, the Philippines has sovereign rights "to explore and exploit, conserve and manage the natural resources, whether living or nonliving, both renewable and nonrenewable," of the waters within its EEZ.

So, Lacierda said, there is "no need to amend the Archipelagic Baselines Law."

Reinforcing claim

Renaming the waters within the Philippine EEZ reinforces the country's claim to the Kalayaan Island Group in the Spratlys and the Panatag Shoal off Zambales province, Lacierda said.

The EEZ within the West Philippine Sea extends 370 kilometers from Philippine shores. Beyond that distance, the sea is known in Vietnam as East Sea. Up north, the waters are called East China Sea.

But China called those waters South China Sea and claims nearly the entire area, including parts of Zambales province, the Philippine Visayas, Palawan, Malaysian and Indonesian waters.

Lacierda acknowledged that the Archipelagic Baselines Law did not cover the Kalayaan Island Group. He said, however, that the claim was still part of Philippine territory under the regime of islands principle in the Unclos.

But Lacierda refused to say if the Kalayaan group within the West Philippine Sea?

"That's one thing that we're verifying," Lacierda answered.

US solons . . .

Front page 4-1

reportedly in Beijing.

Schoolyard bully

The House committee's Republican chair, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, dubbed China a "schoolyard bully with an insatiable neighbor" that aspired to be the dominant power in Asia, controlling vital sea lanes that could be used to choke off everyone and all shipments.

She said the United States should stand by its allies, the Philippines and Japan.

"Other global crises must not be isolated from our vital national interests in the South China Sea and the western Pacific," she told a hearing addressing the issue.

Top Democrat Howard Berman said the Obama administration had repeatedly made clear to Beijing that the United States would not allow China to assert hegemony over the region.

He said the United States must continue to press China to resolve its claims peacefully.

Overlapping claims

China and five of its neighbors, including the Philippines and Vietnam, have overlapping claims to several small but potentially energy-rich areas of the East Sea and the West Philippine Sea that have become an increasing focus of bickering and confrontation.

In July, China upped the ante when it created a city and military garrison on Woody Island, in the Paracels, as the first step to strengthen its control over disputed islands.

The United States considers that an understanding efforts to manage and resolve disputes through diplomacy. That angered China, which says it has an indisputable claim.

Peace and stability

The United States, which remains the world's predominant military power, says it does not take a position on the competing territorial claims, but has a national security interest in the maintenance of peace and stability in the region.

On Tuesday it urged "insider heads to prevail" in a separate island dispute between Japan and China in the East China Sea.

Republican Rep. Mike Kelly questioned the ability of an isolated United States to exercise its military presence across the world, and suggested China was now "the toughest guy in the neighborhood" that would call the shots on policy there.

"At some point we better wake up and smell the coffee," Kelly said. "We have a diminished influence because we really don't have the ability at times to do what we say we are going to do."

Security burden

Democrat Rep. Brad Sherman said US allies needed to bear more of the security burden, as during the Cold War against the United States.

"Those nations in the Asia-Pacific region, particularly those that have reasons to with China's expansionist claims, ought to be devoting a reasonable portion of GDP to their own naval defense," he said.

On Thursday the House intelligence committee will question executives of two major Chinese technology companies as it probes allegations that the firms' involvement in the US market could pose a national security risk. AP

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Logging ban driving many to crime, says antilogging chief

By DJ Yap

MOUNT Isall a million Filipinos are losing their jobs in Mindanao as a consequence of the government's drive against illegal loggers, and many of them might turn to crime to survive.

This worrisome outcome of further depressing the communities in Mindanao, particularly the Caraga region, was presented by Atty. Ilegal Logging Task Force (MLTF) executive director Rolando Mitmilla, a retired general who is himself facing accusations of protecting illegal logging interests.

"While the government is winning on its campaign against massive illegal logging in Mindanao, about half a million individuals are losing their jobs and their only source of income to feed their families," he said in the task force's accomplishment report for July.

He said the scenario "worrying" most of city and town governments in Mindanao, especially in Caraga.

"If this will not be addressed immediately, crimes such as holdups, snatching and even kidnapping are expected to increase tremendously affecting the highly urbanized cities of Butuan, Tagum, Cabadbaran, Surigao City and many others," Mitmilla said.

In the subsequent accomplishment report for August, he pushed this point further by saying that the implementation of Executive Order No. 23, which sought to further intensify the anti-illegal logging campaign in Mindanao, had "created economic and social implications."

Livelihood source

"Timber industry is one of the common sources of livelihood in Surigao Mindanao. The sudden stoppage of logs supply from the natural and residual forest makes it difficult for the MPPs [wood processing plants] to continue [their] operations and importation," he said.

Mitmilla was recently identified as an illegal protector of illegal loggers and Al-Samsuden in a report by Insider. F Otero, an informant of the Department of the Interior and Local Government who was designated by the late Secretary Jesse Robredo as special assistant.

Otero has not provided evidence for his claims, saying he will do so at the proper time, while Mitmilla has denied the sweeping allegations and offered to quit his post to save the organization.

In the August report, Mitmilla cited significant gains in the efforts of the Mindanao-based ALTF to curb illegal logging in Caraga and Northern Mindanao.

"Based on the statistics of the apprehended illegally cut logs for the month of August, there was a rapid decrease in the volume as compared to previous months. Most of the apprehensions this month were from here loaded in conveyances," he said.

He said the illegal loggers now find it very hard to sell their illegally cut logs and lumber to wood processing plants because of the active presence of the ALTF.

"The illegal loggers[s] in the Northern were found at the following locations: along the rivers, riverbanks, farmlots shop and along the road/driving/transport," Mitmilla said.

On Aug. 3, almost 300 pieces of lumber and other miscellaneous logs valued at P1 million were confiscated at 3Sbs Town Town, Barangay Cantuco; in Sitio Bebog, Barangay Sudi Jose; and in Sitio Bacbacan, Barangay Kauswagan, all in Boston town, Davao Oriental.

The next day, the task force confiscated a 10-wheeler truck allegedly belonging to a "valuer" organization with illegal logging operations.

"The blatant cutting of trees [both planted and naturally grown ones not utilizing chain saws, reachers and 10-wheeler lumbers are strong indications that behind powerful persons are behind this illegal operation," Mitmilla said.

He said illegal timber coming in Mindanao "is an ordinary business among some unscrupulous individuals."

"The perpetrators vary from businessmen, local government officials, professionals and the indigenous people, source of timber owners of the severity of the crime, he said.

"To some perpetrators, it is not perceived as a crime and hunted as the environment, it is a way of doing business and others do it for subsistence. They are used to earn easy money and would not give up their comfort zone. There must be a ways to motivate the mind set of the people in the area," he added.

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Wooded by 2 suitors, Loren is tickled pink

By Norman Bordadora

SENATOR Loren Legarda is admittedly giddy that she's being pursued by two major political coalitions in her quest for another senatorial slot in 2013.

A few weeks before the filing of certificates of candidacies, Legarda continues to play coy as to whether she'd run under the administration coalition led by President Aquino's Liberal Party (LP) or under the United Nationalist Alliance (UNA) recently formed under the leadership of Vice President Jejomar Binay.

Although the LP has communicated with Legarda's party, the Nacionalista Party-Social Democratic Reform (NP-SDR), the senator said it would still be up to her to decide which step to take.

"The NPC has given me the forehand to either which group to join in consultation with them. Of course, I will take into consideration whatever talks are ongoing with the UNP," Legarda said.

"They said they will always support the UPC candidates. Remember, there are two of us—Gregorio Rep. Jack Enrile and myself—who are running for senator. They will support whomever we run for," she added.

The two-termer senator called UNA her "home" since 2004 when she ran for vice president alongside her husband, the late Fernando Poe Jr.

In contrast, Legarda said there was no formal invitation to be part of the LP coalition.

"Ang pula ay ako. Ako nang made me giddy," Legarda quipped when asked how it feels to be wooed by the two major parties.

The LP-led coalition is allied with the Nacionalista Party (NP) of Sen. Manuel Villar and the NPC of Legarda.

The UNA, on the other hand, is composed of Binay's PDP-Laban and former President Joseph Estrada's Pwersa ng Masang Pilipino.

So far, then President Aquino announced the LP's coalition with the NP and the NPC months after Binay and Estrada's parties came together.

"It's the NPC and LP party officials who are talking. I am not part of the talks. I would like to reiterate that I am running for my last and final term in 2013, still under NPC," Legarda said.

Legarda justified the hesitation to be a guest candidate of UNA. On LP's reported invitation, she said she just "read it in the papers."

"I respect the ongoing talks of the NPC and the Liberal Party. I welcome whatever invitation there are or there will be," Legarda said.

Comelec presses raps vs Morato

By Jeannette I. Andrade

MAINTAINING that the right to freedom of speech or expression was not absolute, the Commission on Elections (Comelec) has opposed a motion by former Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) Chair Rhoda Morato to junk the electioneering charges the poll body had filed against him.

In an opposition to Morato's motion to dismiss filed with Comelec (2B) Judge Ernesto Dacuycuy Calleja, Comelec lawyers insisted that there was probable cause for the filing of four charges against the former PCSO chair.

The Comelec lawyers said the public prosecutor is the one the Comelec "exercises a wide latitude of discretion in determining whether a criminal case should be filed in court," which the courts must respect.

Unless there is a finding of a flaw in the charges filed, they said the court in determining probable cause was limited only to deciding whether or not an error warrant should be issued against the accused.

The Comelec lawyers also assailed Morato's claim that the multiple charges of violations of Republic Act No. 9006, or the Fair Elections Act, and Republic Act No. 8189, or the Omnibus Election Code, filed against him were intended to "punish" his exercise of free speech, expression and of the press.

"The exercise of one's freedom of speech or expression, whether he is a member of media or not, is not absolute, especially during an election period. This freedom has to yield to the paramount need of the state, especially for the success of a fair, free, honest, orderly, peaceful and credible election," the lawyers maintained.

They said the arguments that Morato offered in his motion to dismiss were a "mere rehash" of the grounds stated in his counter-affidavit and motion for reconsideration with the commission en banc.

The Comelec lawyers asked the court to deny the motion to dismiss for "utter lack of merit."

Morato has been charged with four counts of electioneering for allegedly using two years ago several episodes of his public affairs show "Dial M," aired over state-owned IBC 13, to campaign for presidential candidates Dilbert Tiamzon and his running mate, Elizabeth Maravanza, in the 2010 national elections, while also urging the public not to vote for certain senatorial candidates.

Former PCSO chair said the acts imputed to him as partisan political activity were "nothing but pure harmonious and political pronouncement, and also to extract [the] freedom of speech, of expression, or of the press."

Lack of 'extort' witnesses disappoints De Lima

By Christine O. Avendaño

JUSTICE Secretary Leila de Lima yesterday expressed disappointment that no one in the Department of Justice (DOJ) had responded to her appeal to provide information on the possible involvement of more people in an extortion attempt that happened right in the premises of the DOJ.

De Lima said she ordered the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) to conduct an investigation to establish

GMA suffering from dehydration

By Lelia B. Salaverria

SOME ITCH severe dehydration that former President and Pampanga Rep. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo is suffering from.

Arroyo yesterday disclosed in her official Twitter account, that she has been in and out of medical facilities because of severe dehydration which at times can aggravate her medical problems.

"I keep entering the hospital and having transmissions. this time due to my severe dehydration," Arroyo said.

"A neurologist practitioner even attributed my recurring spinal problems to this severe dehydration," she added.

To address the problem, she said she has taken up the "natural practice" of drinking tap water with non-iodized natural sea salt.

Arroyo last week disclosed that she has been undergoing stem cell therapy. She said her treatment involves cultured stem cells, which she said is "much more modest in price than the one coming from sheep or mice somebody."

A close friend and ally, Quezon Rep. Danilo Suarez, earlier confirmed that the former President has been treated on stem cell therapy.

According to Suarez, Arroyo had told him that the stem cells being used in her therapy did not come from lamb embryos. She allegedly said her therapy was the cheapest and most safe treatment.

Stem cell therapy is a strategy for treating illnesses and reversing aging involving the introduction of new stem cells into damaged tissue in order restore the organ's tissue or cells.

Arroyo's spokesperson, Elena Bautista-Horn, earlier confirmed that the former President herself updates her Twitter account.

Arroyo is suffering from cervical spondylosis, a degenerative disease of the bones and cartilage of the neck. She had three surgeries at the St. Luke's Medical Center in 2011. She was again hospitalized last month after choking on a piece of melon, which her doctor explained was caused by the shifting of the titanium brace implanted on Arroyo's neck which maldoctoring her ear and eye problems.

The former President is undergoing a three weekly therapy at the Veterans Memorial Medical Center. She has also been reportedly consulting with alternative medicine practitioners.

MILF offers olive branch to Mar Roxas

By Philip C. Tubeza

PEOPLE, not just elephants, have long memories.

The Moro Islamic Liberation Front has not forgotten that first Sen. Manuel "Mar" Roxas II was one of the "fiercest opponents" of the Memorandum of Agreement on Ancestral Domain (MOA-AD) that the government, and the MILF were set to sign during the Arroyo administration to end the decades-long Muslim insurgency.

The deal had been reached in secret and ended a large chunk of land and autonomy to a Bangsamoro nation.

In an editorial on its website Luwaran.com, the MILF said that offending Filipino Muslims since would not do Roxas' political journey any good, now that he had been appointed interior secretary by President Aquino and since it appeared that he had erased plans of running for president in 2016.

Olive branch

The MILF, however, was quick to point out that Roxas' views may have changed from the time he was a senator in 2009-2010, and it extended the possibility of working with him for peace.

"[Roxas] has the capability to change his views, especially now that he is part of the Aquino official family... Openly offending the Moros is not good for his political career," the MILF said.

It then offered Roxas an olive branch.

"The MILF's policies are not based on emotional outbursts or tainted by hatred. Its views or hostile issues with utmost care and responsibility and, more importantly, on the basis of clear and established theological and political lines," the group said.

"In short, the MILF does not have permanent enemies, except oppression and injustice," it added.

Roxas was appointed interior secretary in place of the late Jesse Robredo who died in a plane crash on Aug. 18. At the time Roxas was the secretary of transportation and communications.

Roxas, the MILF recalled, had vigorously helped to resist in the MOA-AD.

Still Aquino's call

"In fact, he rallied hard-core anti-MOA-AD politicians like Noel's Cotabato Mayor Gov. Emmanuel Piñol, Zamboanga City Mayor Celso Lobregat and Iligan City Mayor Lawrence Cruz to fight against this historic agreement. And [with] the subdivisions, top military of the Arroyo administration, they succeeded," the MILF said.

The rebel group said it was now hoping that Roxas would follow through on the vow made by President Aquino to secure a peace deal with the MILF during his term.

"Roxas is just one of his Cabinet members, he is not the boss. The call is still Aquino's, and settling the Moro question and the armed conflict is the chief national business of this country, which we believe no sensible person would oppose," the MILF said.

"It be so naïve that he cannot find or know this need? We strongly believe he is not that person or leader now in fairness to him, he is not a sheep leader or politician, he simply did not see the need for the MOA-AD's signing, as others saw it," the MILF said of Roxas.

The peace talks with the MILF being held in Kuala Lumpur are at an advanced stage and Malacañang has even announced that a deal might be reached before the end of the year.

PNP orders rebidding of assault rifles contract

By Marlon Ramos

LIKE goes on at the Philippine National Police.

Three months after President Aquino himself discovered that the 994 assault rifles offered by a lone bidder were overpriced and ordered that the P400-million deal be canceled, the PNP announced a new bidding for the firearms.

Director Rodolfo Reyes, chief of logistics, said the PNP bids and awards committee (BAC) would open the public bidding for the procurement of 3,000 units of long firearms starting next month.

Undaunted by allegations that its purchase of P1.2 billion worth of pistols was tainted with anomalies, Reyes said the PNP procurement team had started studying the best selling price they could get for the M4 rifles.

"We really have to fill up our shortage for the long firearms. But because they are more expensive, we decided to prioritize the purchase of the pistols," Reyes said in a news briefing at Camp Crame on Wednesday.

Barring allegations of irregularities in its bidding process, Deputy Director General Emilio Rafael Garmendia, BAC chair, vowed to follow strict government procurement laws "to the letter."

"We want to assure the public that the PNP will exercise utmost transparency in all our dealings. I can tell you frankly that the present members of the BAC did not profess even a single centavo from these multimillion-peso procurement projects," Garmendia said.

Closure sought

"I just hope that we could put a closure to all these controversies and go on with the important procurements of supplies for the PNP," he said.

The PNPBAC had initially awarded the contract for the supply of 1,000 units of rifles to H. Asiatitanium Corp. The company which also originally bagged the supply contract for the first batch of handguns. It, Espanol, the lone bidder for the rifles, offered about P69,000 each for the M4 firearms manufactured by an Israeli gunmanufacturer.

Like what happened to its bid for the pistols, the company was even initially disqualified when it failed to submit necessary documents.

Upon orders by the President, then Interior Secretary Jesse Robredo called Senator Sergio Osmeña, Reyes, head of the PNP BAC committee, to an Aug. 25-30 round the senator table in Espanol.

The President told he himself discovered on the Internet that the M4 rifles could be bought for as low as $800, or around P35,000 each.

Rifle deal triggered Puno's fall at DILG, says Palace official

From page A1

lister of the Asia-Pacific summit while a flame erupted in Manila over Puno's right arm before Robredo's body was recovered after a three-day search.

Yesterday, PNP Deputy Director General Pioline Sarmiento revealed to the House of Representatives committee on dangerous drugs the 2012 undercover buy had intervened in the firearms procurement.

Sarmiento said Puno was not a ruffling members of the PNP Bidding committee that has no influence over us," said Sarmiento, head of the committee.

"He was asked to resign as early as July," the Senator in formate said yesterday.

"But I don't know why anything happened," the senior quoted Mr. Aquino as telling Puno, his longtime shooting range buddy, that it was time for him to step down.

The source said that the President confronted Puno before his State of the Nation Address on July 23 about the rifles' the PNP was planned to purchase.

The source said the President quietly took Puno to task for failing to stop the procurement process despite serious questions on pricing and specifications.

"He got irked because he asked them (Puno and PNP officials) to stop the procurement but they were ahead with it," the source said. "(Puno) did nothing and the President was upset."

The procurement process was halted only after some of the PNP leaders "lost their credibilities," according to the source.

The Inquirer tried, but failed to contact Puno on his mobile phone. A member of his staff said Puno would rather wait for the autopsy to be published before making any statement.

Malacañang announced on Monday that it had accepted Puno's resignation in a letter submitted last Friday. Puno said he was resigning to give DILG secretary-designate Mar Roxas a free hand in reorganizing the department.

Asked if Puno's resignation could be considered as a killing two birds with one stone, the source said: "Yes, in a sense, but not entirely."

Hostage fiasco

The source did not elaborate, but recalled that the relationship had also been strained during the Quirino hostage crisis in August 2010.

That time, Puno got part of the blame over the botched police rescue operation that led to the death of eight Hong Kong tourists. A subsequent investigation showed that Puno had direct supervision over the PNP as part of his unusual administrative setup at the DILG.

The source, who was also privy to how Mr. Aquino dealt with Puno then, claimed that the DILG undersecretary had also been asked to quit, but a supposed appeal from Puno's loved ones prompted the President's change of heart.

In the interview with Filipino reporters in Mandaluyong, Mr. Aquino said, "I assembled Google and I discovered there were plenty of rifles selling below $1,000. So I asked them: why was $1,000 converted to P40,000? And that started the investigation." But the President clarified that only the procurement process—not Puno—was under investigation.

In fact, the President even defended Puno's purported radio tirade when he gave the orders for the "lockdown" on the DILG offices to arrest water papers after the Robredo plane crash.

He said that Puno continued to enjoy his trust and confidence. He pointed out that he even took personal responsibility for the hostage taking fiasco two months into his presidency. He said then Puno was his "eyes and ears" in the DILG.

PNP to go after losers

Sarmiento met with Agham Rep. Angelo Palmones, who filed a resolution in July to investigate the PNP's purchase of 80,000 pistols worth P1 billion, and asked him for help in penalizing losing bidders who disrupted the bidding process by spreading rumors after they lose.

A Korean supplier questioned the awarding of the contract to Glock Asia Pacific and its local partner Trust Trade, and alleged that anomalies had marred the process.

According to Sarmiento, Puno sat in the meetings of the bids and awards committee (BAC) and sometimes provided inputs, but the committee made its own, independent decisions.

"Undersecretary Puno is not a voting member and he has no influence over us. We are very independent. We can make suggestions during our proceedings, and we weigh them," Sarmiento said.

Sarmiento also said he did not think Puno had done anything improper.

He added that the bidding procedings were open to a lot of observers, including a representative of Bulatlat, and watched on video. The committee's technical working group was assisted by lawyers and accountants to see to it that documents were in order.

The BAC is also being careful because it has learned that PNP officials who faced legal troubles because of questionable procurements, Sarmiento recalled.

The procurement of 60,000 pistols was also embroiled and the deal, in fact, was just awaiting the signature of PNP chief Nicanor Bartolome, he said.

Administrative remedies

Sarmiento said the losing bidders should exhaust administrative remedies if they intend to complain. Unfortunately, some of them tend to bring their complaints to media outlets and new intrigues.

"We are very open to these matters for reconsideration," he said.

Sarmiento said that bidders who seemed unable to follow basic must be disabled because the PNP would suffer and many eyes were pinpointed on changes, and would not want to squander above it would find it hard to defend it well. He asked lawmakers for help in going after such practices.

The House hearing on the issue would be held after the budget deliberations, Palmones said. With a report from Marlon Ramos

Security outside US embassies around the world tightened

HEIGHTENED security measures guarded embassies and consulates around the world Thursday, as protests against an anti-Islam film continued to flare into violence, leaving an ambassador and three other Americans dead.

In Manila, the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) pledged security for foreign embassies and consulates in the country.

The Philippines is home to the Moro conspiracy group the Abu Sayyaf, which has been linked to serious attacks in different parts of the country in recent years.

Guards and police special forces were seen carrying assault rifles outside the US Embassy in Manila. Embassy guards gathered in a photographer to stop taking pictures.

US diplomats had asked for additional police personnel and patrols for the consular compound and a nearby residential complex, as well as the American consulate in Cebu City, ahead of the anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in the US.

US Embassy reopens

Officials said the heightened security would be maintained indefinitely.

"We condemn the siege here, and the families of our injured friends and colleagues are in our thoughts and prayers," US Ambassador to Manila Harry Thomas Jr. said in a statement issued by the American Embassy. "We will do our best to honor and carry forward their memory and their service."

In the same statement, the US Embassy said it appreciated "the strong cooperation and support that we receive from the Philippine National Police and security authorities, and our mutual goals for regular discussion."

It said that US consular services would continue for those with visa appointments and other services.

The DFA condemned the attack in Benghazi, Libya, calling it a "heinous criminal and senseless act of violence ... which should be condemned by the international community."

Controversial film

Elsewhere, Indonesia, the world's most populous Muslim country, joined Afghanistan in demanding that YouTube block the crudely made film with its mocking portrayal of the Prophet Muhammad.

Indonesian authorities are also working with Internet service providers to block access to the film, Communications and Information Ministry spokesperson Gatot Dewa Broto said.

"The film certainly is offensive ... and has upset Indonesian Muslims. We don't seek for anyone to be provoked by it and for violence to break out here," he said.

The late-budget movie depicts the Prophet Muhammad sleeping with women and dwells on themes of pedophilia and homosexuality.

So far, there has been no trouble in Indonesia, where most of the 240 million population practice a moderate form of Islam.

Reaction in Afghanistan, where US-led troops have been waging a decadelong war against the Taliban and Al-Qaeda, has so far been muted. But unwilling to take a risk, President Hamid Karzai postponed his visit to Norway.

"He went go, he's worried about possible riots were the to leave of the film," a presidential aide told to Kabul.

Protests expected

In Pakistan, security was tightened around US diplomatic missions across the country with officials saying they expected protesters to take to the streets.

"We have backed up the security for the possible threats to the US Embassy," said Khurram Rasheed, a senior police official responsible for diplomats' security in Islamabad. "We expect some protests against the film but we are prepared to handle that."

India, which has the world's third biggest Muslim population after Indonesia and Pakistan, issued an alert to security forces deployed outside US diplomatic missions.

In Bangladesh, which saw protests by tens of thousands of people against the publication of Mohammed cartoons by a Danish newspaper in 2006, authorities deployed more armed police at the US and other consulates. Reports from Raissa Quiamcondo, AFP and AP

US vows justice for slain diplomats, sends Marines to Tripoli

From page A1

hostile groups and little police control.

The one-story villa that Stevens as the consulate was a burned-out wreck after the armed mixed with machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades rampaged through it. Shapes of "God is great" and "There's no God's Prophet" were scrawled across its scorched walls.

In Washington, President Barack Obama vowed at a Rose Garden address that the United States would "work with the Libyan government to bring to justice" those who killed Ambassador Chris Stevens, information manager Sean Smith and two other Americans who were not identified. Three other Americans were wounded.

Stevens was the US ambassador killed in the line of duty in 30 years.

The heavily armed Islamist militants stormed the lightly defended consulate, killing Stevens and three members of his staff and raising questions about the administration of countries swept up in the Arab spring.

Organized, well trained

Stevens was missing after militants broke into the staff of his summer from home firefighter, and his body was not located until Wednesday morning at dawn, in a hospital hospital.

American and European officials said that while many de-

THE LIVING U.S. and the following information obtained from CrisisCenter.com on Sept. 12 reportedly shows the car of Sharia Ahmed, which appear to be the group behind the Sept. 11 attack on the US Consulate in Benghazi, Libya.

tails about the attack remained unclear, the assailants seemed organized, well trained and heavily armed, and they appeared to have at least some level of advance planning.

But the officials cautioned that it was too soon to tell whether the attack was related to the anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks.

Fighters involved in the assault, which was spearheaded by a Islamist brigade formed during last year's uprising against Col. Moammar Gadhafi, said in interviews during the battle that they were moved to attack the mission by anger over a 14-minute, homemade video that depicted the Prophet Muhammad as a fraud, a womanizer and child-molesting buffoon.

Obama: No justification

That attack followed by just a few hours the storming of the US Embassy in Cairo by an unarmed mob protesting the same video. On Wednesday, new sounds of protesters gathered outside the US consulates in Tunis and Cairo.

"There is never an excuse" for the rioters, posted online in the United States two months ago and dubbed into Arabic for the first time eight days ago, but further underscored the instability of the countries that rose up against longtime dictators in the Arab spring revolts.

It also cast doubt on the adequacy of security preparations at American diplomatic outposts in the volatile region.

"We regret all efforts to draw

gratuitous religious beliefs of others. Those responsible must be brought to justice," said Obama, who also ordered increased security at US diplomatic posts abroad.

Republican Mitt Romney accused the Obama administration of drawing "the wrong lesson" from the violence. But the president remained on his usual "message to have a tendency to shoot first and ask later" Some in the Republican Party called Romney's remarks hasty.

'Irrelevance of Muslims'

The mob attack was initially presumed to have been a spontaneous act triggered by outrage over a movie called "Innocence of Muslims" that mocked the Prophet Muhammad that was produced in the US and excerpted on YouTube.

But the assault video into three provinces in Cairo, where angry ultraconservatives climbed the US Embassy's walls, tore down an American flag and replaced it with an Islamic banner.

But a US counterterrorism official said Wednesday that President Mohammed el-Megarif spoke grand to the United States for what he called the "cowardly" assault, which also killed several Libyan security guards at the consulate in the eastern city.

A Libyan jihadist group, the Omar Abdel-Rahman Brigade, claimed responsibility for a bomb that went off outside the Benghazi consulate on June. The group said at the time that the bomb was revenge for the killing of al-Qaeda's No. 2, the Libyan al-Libi, in a US drone strike in Pakistan.

US Marines

About 50 US Marines were sent to Libya to guard US diplomatic facilities. The Marines are members of an elite group known as a Fleet Antiterrorism Security Team, or FAST, whose role is to respond on short notice to terrorist threats and provide reinforce security at embassies.

The consulate attack illustrated the breakdown in security in Libya, where the government is still trying to establish authority months after the fall of Gadhafi.

The crowd of several thousand that descended on the consulate was armed with machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades, said Wanis al-Sharif, deputy interior minister of Libya's eastern region.

A small contingent of Libyan security protecting the facility fled in the air, trying to intimidate the mob. But faced with superior numbers and firepower, the Libyan security withdrew, al-Sharif said. Gunmen stormed the building, looted its contents and torched it, he said.

Death from asphyxiation

Details of how the Americans were killed were still unclear.

Stevens, 52, and a consulate staffer who had stayed behind in the building died in the initial attack, el-Megarif said. The rest of the staff successfully evacuated to a nearby building, he said.

Hours after the morning of the attack, a separate group of gunmen attacked the other building, opening fire on the more than 30 Americans and Libyans inside. Two more Americans were killed, he said.

Dr. Gad Abu Zaid, who examined Stevens and the other diplomat died of asphyxiation, apparently from smoke, in a sign of the chaos. Stevens was brought by Libyans to Benghazi Medical Center with an other American, said no one at the facility knew who he was or how he got there.

He said he tried to revive Stevens for about 90 minutes "with no success." The ambassador was bleeding in his stomach because of the asphyxiation and had other injuries.

Widely regarded as one of the most effective American envoys to the Arab world, Stevens brokered solid disputes and reinforced US outreach efforts in Jerusalem, Cairo, Damascus and Riyadh. As a rising star in US foreign policy, he was tapped to lead the mission in Libya, where he was deeply committed to use a democracy rise where Gadhafi's dictatorship flourished for four decades.

The bloodshed stunned many Libyans, especially since Stevens, a popular envoy among different factions and politicians, including Islamists, and was seen as a supporter of their uprising against Gadhafi.

Reports from Ali Noor from Times Wires Services and AFP

To stop 'jueteng,' bishop says all P-Noy has to do is say the word

By Tina G. Santos

PRESIDENT Aquino can stop "jueteng," an illegal numbers racket, if he wants to, according to Archbishop Edwin Oscar Cruz, an antigambling crusader.

"President Aquino only has to say the word and the country will get rid of jueteng," Cruz said in an article posted on the website of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines.

Cruz, head of Iemanila ng Bayan/Caritas Jueteng, said he wouldn't emphasize this point in a Senate inquiry into the illegal numbers racket and the alleged shenanigans of resigned Interior and Local Government Secretary Ilocos Norte Rep. Jesse Robredo.

"I will just put up some principle that if jueteng will not stop in the country, notwithstanding all the beautiful laws and decrees, it's not because of the big fishes but of the excessive depersonnel," Cruz said.

He said the executive department was tasked with implementing laws. "The legislative can just make laws. So (earlier) we have only (so many laws). If the executive is sleeping on these, nothing happens," he said in the article.

The matter now depends on the Aquino administration's political will, Cruz said.

The retired archbishop earlier expressed reservations over attending another inquiry into jueteng, but he changed his mind following a formal invitation from the Senate, which he received on Tuesday.

However, Cruz said he did not have a new exposé because he gave all the information he had about jueteng to the congressional investigations two years ago.

"They are not asking for data. I was asked to do something else, specifically on jueteng. What it is all about, etc. I think I might be able to contribute something," Cruz said.

In the 2010 Senate inquiry, Cruz identified Pena as one of the tackling Aquino administration officials who were receiving up to P8 million in monthly payola from jueteng operators.

Last week, Cruz said the illegal numbers racket was alive as ever in the country, just notably in provinces in Luzon.

No-shows in Miriam show today

From page A1

deputies to participate in the Senate inquiry.

Santiago yesterday said the boycott could indicate an attempt by the Palace or "sabotage" her efforts to look into Pimentel's alleged involvement in questionable activities, such as the illegal numbers racket "jueteng," anomalous logging and the questionable purchase of firearms for the government.

"If it happens, such a deliberate boycott will indicate that even my fellow senators who are members of my committee do not support my initiatives. I will certainly take a protest, but I'm thinking at the moment of what form my protest will take," Santiago said in an e-mailed statement.

Quorum

Under Senate rules, the presence of two committee members constitutes a quorum for a hearing to take place.

"If there is no quorum today, this can only mean that the senators have been ordered by Malacañang to stay away," Santiago noted.

Members of the committee chaired by Santiago include Senators Edgardo Angara, Franklin Drilon, Pedro Lacson, Manuel "Lito" Lapid, Jinggoy Estrada, Ferdinand Marcos Jr. and Aquilino "Koko" Pimentel III.

Senate President Pro Tempore Jinggoy Estrada, Majority Leader Vicente Sotto and Minority Leader Alan Peter Cayetano are ex-officio members of the panel.

Santiago said many of the members could "very well be out of town today."

Enrile's warning

Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile on Wednesday said that Santiago needed a resolution, a proposed bill or give a privilege speech to move on basis for her investigation.

Santiago, however, maintained that as committee chair, she could open an investigation without any of these three conditions Enrile cited. Enrile answered that only the Senate rules and blue ribbon committee could investigate motu propio.

Lacson warned Santiago that her threat to subpoena Pena, who has resigned, in lieu his attendance and a plan to cite him in contempt if he defied the subpoena would need the participation of other senators.

Lacson said only Enrile as Senate President could sign a subpoena. Santiago would also need the approval of the majority of all senators to cite Pena in contempt, he added.

Santiago wants Pena to clarify the scope of his work as interior undersecretary since he was given supervision over the Philippine National Police.

Santiago said not only was the job description "irregular" as supervision of the PNP was a responsibility of the department secretary. She also said that Pena had failed miserably in reallocating jueteng and may be proving its operators.

Pena has not confirmed his attendance in today's hearing. Santiago's office said: "The senator's staff sent invitations to all resource persons on Monday Sept. 12.

No excuse for absence

If Pena is absent, "then it will show that he is a evasive accord, that all charges against him are probably true, and that he is thumbing his nose at the Filipino public," Santiago said.

"Even if Pena will claim that he does not want to answer questions because he might incriminate himself, that is no excuse for being absent. He has to be present and invoke the privilege for every question. That is not a ground for an omnibus refusal to answer all questions or to be silent," she added in her statement.

"The invitation specifically warns that if the committee deems as unreasonable the nonappearance of the resource person, if he is absent, then the senate may still issue a subpoena, which is compulsory."

If Enrile refuses to sign a subpoena as to force Pena to attend, "in effect he will disapprove the committee recommendation, which is unusual," she said.

Apart from Pena and De Lima, Santiago has also invited to the hearing Executive Secretary Paquito Ochoa, incoming Interior Secretary Mar Roxas, PNP Director General Nicanor Bartolome, retired Archbishop Oscar Cruz and Redemptorist widow Lena, who has logged off, saying she is still mourning. With a report from Christine O. Avendaño

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OPINION

Candid talk, but...

EDITORIAL

PRESIDENT AQUINO has again used the occasion of an institution's anniversary to take that institution to task—essentially for failing to live up to its highest ideals. This time it wasn't a newer organization, but a high-profile government agency: the Bureau of Immigration. We have gotten used to the President's candid candor, and think that in general it is a welcome change. But we must say that we found something amiss with the candid remarks he made at the BI head office.

"Let's accept it: The Bureau of Immigration is one of the agencies embedded in controversial issues in the past years. So pardon me if I take this opportunity to present matters that caused my dismay and more importantly our 'Boss.'" the President was quoted as saying last Tuesday, referencing yet again his populist (and popular) notion that he and other government workers report directly to the real bosses, the ordinary people.

He criticized the BI for its handling of specific cases: Ty Bangsoni's front-page report into dozens of these, the mysterious disappearance from a Philippine hospital of a South Korean national wanted by the Seoul government; the entry of a major "cybercrime and human trafficking syndicate" into the country; and, above all, the escape of the Reyes brothers after they were implicated in the murder of Palawan environmentalist Gerry Ortega.

These three cases are perfect examples; they explain why the BI remains very controversial two full years into Mr. Aquino's term. The escape of former Palawan Gov. Joel Reyes and his brother Mario, in particular, is a real sore point with the public. It is the kind of scandal that can, over the long term, turn the tide of public opinion.

In his remarks delivered entirely in Filipino, the President belabored the obvious, giving vent to frustrations shared by ordinary people disgusted by the entire Reyes affair. "In instances like this, we expect those planning to escape to do everything to avoid ending in jail. They will not identify themselves as stepmothers in a case, as sachets of your watch list, and more so, they won't turn themselves in to the authorities."

He then asked a question that must have spooked the assembly: "Can this happen without conspiracy and without anyone sleeping on the job? If these controversial individuals managed to elude the law . . . how much [more their] brain knows criminals?"

The President accusing the staff of a line agency of conspiracy—this is something new.

Just to be clear: We have nothing against the President's rather assertive attitude toward anniversary speeches. Our political culture is not used to frank talk; however political heirshare (or hoodoo, as a number of Filipinos still say) and political praise or promise (or hoo, as everyone still says), there is hardly anything. So it is easy to understand why the President's candid criticism of his boom, whether it is AIG-CHN or the BI, can upset many Filipinos. We are not used to it.

But there is a difference between criticizing a newer organization, over which the President has no control, and criticizing a line agency that ultimately reports to Malacañang. In the case of the BI, two of the headline cases that the President referred to happened many months ago: the Korean national Kim Tae Dong went missing last December, and the Reyes brothers disappeared last March. It is already September. What has the executive branch done since?

We know that an immigration officer and a security guard at Ninoy Aquino International Airport implicated in the Reyes brothers' escape have been placed under preventive suspension. But we expected more heads to roll, and more decisive action taken. Immigration Commissioner Ricardo David, for instance, has a lot to answer for, but crediting to the President's remarks himself as any displeasure with the performance of the man who was his first appointee to the post of Armed Forces chief of staff.

Our concern, then, lies not with Mr. Aquino's incorrigibly frequent use of the so-called presidential bully pulpit, that power to drive opinion or effect change through moral suasion. That is his prerogative. We only question whether, in the case of what human-resources practitioners call direct reports, moral suasion can ever be a substitute for direct action.

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Herbert Bautista and Rico E. Puno

As I See It

Neal H. Cruz

QUEZON CITY Mayor Herbert Bautista should be commended for yielding to the public clamor against politicians pulverizing the city with their posters and pictures on billboards, tarpaulins, posters, banners, waiting sheds, basketball courts, roads, plant boxes or islands in the middle of the streets, etc., etc. These are violations of the city's ordinance. It is also unfair for the politicians to the sponsor of this or that project, but of course the real purpose is to curry votes. The mayor himself had the initials "HB" etched on the tiles decorating the plant boxes on the city's major thoroughfares, which traveled on upset among the public. Recently, he had his initials painted over as commuters will no longer be irritated by them.

That done, the mayor has ordered all city politicians and officials to also remove their illegal posters "ipso" signs. See, Initial (Advice-Intelligence has already lifted a bill penalizing the beneficiaries of these "ipso" signs.

The people's complaint against those self-serving ads is that the taxpayers, and not the politicians, spent for those projects. In fact, some of the money used for those projects may have gone into the politicians' private pockets.

In some instances—bearing campaign slogans such as "Happy Fiesta," "Congratulations graduates" and "Happy Birthday, Sir/Madam"—there is not even any project to speak of. It is just to allow sure the name of the politician. But the taxpayers are still paying for them.

The only thing that might destroy the beauty—or what's left of it—of the city. These signs are living from trees, electric wires and posts, on fences and walls. They even pose a danger when they are hung from power lines. And because they obstruct drivers, they also contribute to traffic accidents. Sa Maynila (Manila's other self-only possess-other politicians from having an advantage over him after he had his initials on those decorative tiles painted over, they also reduce danger to the public.

There's just one problem with his order to politicians to remove their "ipso" signs, and that's: Is he has to order these same matters who painted over his initials to remove all—and I mean all—the "ipso" signs and ads all over the city.

• • •

Another person to be commended is former Interior Undersecretary Rico E. Puno's resignation from his post, which President Aquino quickly accepted. Now Puno faces two investigations in Congress.

Puno was earlier reported to have attempted to void and revoke—the officers and lawyers of Bulacan's provincial government have been after his plane reached in the sacred Mauban. Puno was allegedly trying to get documents incriminating him in cases being investigated by Bulacan. The President himself said that he had ordered Puno to "lock down" the officers of Bulacan in safeguard documents.

That cleared, Puno now faces two congressional investigations on his alleged links to jueteng, illegal logging, and that purchase of unexpired guns for the Philippine National Police. According to speculations, Puno is the bagman in the collection of "tong" from jueteng operators. Another speculation is that he is the protector of illegal loggers. And think of it: P1 billion (repeat, P1 billion) in taxpayers' money would be spent to buy 60,000 pistols for the PNP. No government would buy things it could not conduct without any bidding to some officials, so the speculation goes.

It is well that Congress will investigate Puno for these insinuations so that the truth will come out. But let us respect the constitutional presumption on the presumption of innocence until a person is proven guilty.

• • •

FOLLOW-UP: Last Jan. 12, I questioned here why the Department of Justice had taken over the investigation of the syndicated estafa case at the Manila City Prosecutor's Office. The complainants were questioning the motive of the DOJ.

To make the story clear, let me repeat the background on the case in that column:

"On Sept. 26, 1995, a joint venture agreement was entered into by GDC (formerly International Development Corp.) and 888 Homes (formerly Builders Inc.) on the nine hand, and Ortigas Land on the other, to develop parcels of real estate owned by GDC and 888 along Julia Vargas (now Emerald) in Makati, Ortigas was to construct the condominiums.

"Units raised, through a public offering, P250-million to be used exclusively to develop the mixed-use condo. However, the amount was instead diverted to other projects and ran no longer be accounted for. The amount went to Ortigas Land Inc., a subsidiary firm, only to be loaned back to Ortigas without interest.

"It is not only the investors asking where their money is; earlier this year the thousands of small investors who bought shares of Ortigas's public offering. It publicly listed corporation, Ortigas's board chair is Antonio Lopez, a relative of President Aquino."

After an investigation, the National Bureau of Investigation filed the case with the Manila City Prosecutor's Office on Nov. 22, 2010, against two executives of Ortigas Corp.—Jimmy Ho Hing Tin and Jesus Lourdes Reynes—for alleged embezzlement/estafa. The two officials refused to surrender documents subpoenaed by the NBI. The DOJ took over the two-year-old, high-profile case. Acting City Prosecutor Edwin Donpa filed criminal charges in court against Tin and Reynes.

The obstruction of justice complaint stemmed from the earlier syndicated estafa complaint filed with the NBI by GDC against Ortigas.

Tightened rules on OFW domestic labor

PASSION FOR REASON

Raul C. Pangalangan

ON TUESDAY last week in Kuala Lumpur, I opened the newspapers and, lo and behold, saw the banner of Malaysia's four ("The people's paper"). "Yes, the Filipinos." The report quoted Labor Minister Datuk Seri Dr. Subramaniam Sithambaram's plan to phase out the sending of citizens overseas to work (as domestic helpers). It's as good as saying goodbye to Filipina maids."

In the inside pages, the focus of the accompanying articles was on how the informal supply of domestic helpers would affect local businesses. The caption read: "Hotels forget Filipina maids" and "Loath to live without foreign maids, people told." Significantly, the paper said that "it will look bad for Malaysia if [the] Philippines becomes the third country to ban its maids from working in Malaysia." Cambodia has banned it, Indonesia has, while new entrants from Indonesia have been ordered to a recess. Just like the Philippines, they were concerned about the treatment of domestic workers in Malaysia.

The incident of overseas Filipino workers in Malaysia has increased from 15,000 in 2007 to 28,000 at present. Significantly, the wages of Filipino maids were almost twice that of Indonesians: a monthly average of RM1,268 (or $400) for Filipinos and RM700 for $220) for Indonesians. The up-front cost of hiring a Filipino maid is also much higher (~RM8,000) as opposed to ~RM4,311 for an Indonesian maid.

Our labor attaché in Malaysia, Jr. Alicia Garcia, was quoted as saying that we are now "stricter [in order] to ensure that [recruitment] agencies abide by all requirements," referring to the problem of nonpayment of wages and ill treatment. She even mentioned "the prospect of a total moratorium on the deployment of maids."

Apparently this is part of a tightening of OFW deployment as DOJ secretary Leila said of 2012, in order to counter the abuse of domestic workers. But one finds Lumpur ordinary has cool—in addition to money—to move into improved economy and the availability of quality jobs at home." The Philippines prefers to send mostly skilled and credentialed workers abroad.

It is one thing to be in Manila and read the news: "Bb' congressmen say." It feels different reading about our newsstand economies speak while in a foreign capital, and seeing it through foreign eyes.

In all candor, but I read about the phaseout of OFW deployment through official statements in Manila, I wouldn't believe it. I wouldn't've seen it as mere PR fluff. After all, we are so optimistic people who don't even bright the distinction between plans and hopes. My attitude is more like: Hey nice, but what lessons? Maybe in five years He would be as good for us—Ginang Pinoys that we can stay put in the homeland and still earn a living wage.

But reading about the tightening of OFW deployment while in a host country, the message I get is: This time, we mean business. If the local Malaysian executives of OFWs are worried about losing their maids, then they must think we had not kept their end of the deal, then our labor authorities indeed are serious about protecting our migrant workers. If the domestic-slave clients getting antsy that the supply-side is getting leaky, then it's even better.

The first lesson we learn from this is that political will matters. And that holds true not just for the Philippines but for Indonesia and Cambodia as well. Governments have the diplomatic prerogative to protect their nationals abroad, but they must care more about their people indoors about getting along well with foreign governments. Indeed, in Indonesia's case, the out of necessity" resulted in a formal agreement signed by the KL and Jakarta governments. Because the problem of OFW abuses can seem national boundaries, government action is indispensable.

The second is that it does help that our economy is picking up. Whereas before, our attitude was "beggars can't be choosers," now the status is "first, don't do this right." Perhaps the beggars can't be choosers attitude was understandable before when we truly were the "sick man of Asia," and we were not in any position to bargain at all. With the signs of an economic upturn (now widely recognized, we are better positioned to present our more vulnerable brothers and sisters.

Indeed, the best praise for domestic to prevent OFW abuses is to create more jobs domestically. Then we can be picky about our OFW destinations, and can direct the exodus to more enlightened host countries that respect their workers' rights. Of course, that won't happen overnight but it's good to know we're moving in that direction.

Finally, one surprising lesson that scientists try works. For Malaysia, the status of origin of its domestic workers are typically Indonesia, Cambodia and the Philippines. If the status of origin hated together, they can negotiate more effectively. Conversely, the host state can even play them against one another. Admittedly, in this case, the states of origin were not acting in solidarity but were merely reacting defensively against mounting complaints. But just imagine if we had realized what happened overnight: Sovereign solidarity can bring? When the host society has organized its day-to-day life around the availability of cheap domestic help, it is actually hostage to the states that supply that cheap labor. It turns out that we, the states of origin, are not as helpless as we thought.

I'm sure there are many more positive ways of telling if our economy is doing better, but the voluntary tapering off of the OFW exodus is surely the most dramatic and the most heartfelt. The goal is to find greener pastures without having to leave the warmth of family. It's a reason to rejoice when Filipinos given the options to leave, choose to live at home.

• • •

Comments to passionforreason@gmail.com

PH-China row on hold as Beijing party purge looms

(concluded from Wednesday)

TERRITORIAL DISPUTES between China and some Asian states boiled over at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (Apec) Summit last week, and in Vladivostok, formally the economic zone home of the Russian Pacific Fleet, outgoing Chinese President Hu Jintao (a frequent visitor) on Sunday after failing to hold bilateral talks with Chinese President Hu Jintao on deteriorating Philippine-China relations.

Russian President Vladimir Putin used the summit as a platform to reassert Russia's Asia-Pacific port city as its window on the Asia-Pacific as it shifts the weight of its strategic economic and political interests from Europe to the Pacific. But the summit unleashed deep divisions over worsening territorial disputes in the region.

In opening the summit on hosting Putin—the past Soviet President since walled off for 50 Apec heads of state to open up trade among their countries and warned against rising protectionism. But the specter of territorial rows reared its head in the conference. Hu, speaking in advance of Apec business leaders, echoed Putin's theme. "To maintain regional peace and stability is the essential premise of economic growth in the Asia-Pacific and is in the interest of all countries in the region," Hu said. "It is our shared responsibility." He went on to call on all to "ensure that tensions did not escalate into serious conflicts."

Of course, Hu was not calling on China, which is at the center of the disputes that are churning around the islands, shoals and reefs in the South China Sea (Near Philippine Sea) over which China and the Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia, Brunei and Taiwan have overlapping claims. Hu's speech must have been including for Mr. Aquino to hear, which helps explain why in the phone appropriation during the cocktail reception, Mr. Aquino didn't eagerly appear in the front row of the leaders, making himself more comfortable chatting with friendly colleagues, such as US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

ANALYSIS

Armando Doronila

The summit was held amid heightening disputes among China, Japan and South Korea over territories in the East China Sea, as well as the vital center of Southeast Asian maritime disputes, Vietnam, Brunei, and Malaysia over islands in the South China Sea, all of which is claimed by China. Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda shunned bilateral talks with Hu and with South Korea's (ex-Myung Bak because of Japan's imperialist dispute with Seoul. Absent of the summit, the Philippines and Vietnam had both words against China, accusing it of carrying out a campaign of intimidation to enforce its claims on the West Philippine Sea.

In Vladivostok, China not only engaged in deadlock talks, it also pursued sought to cut off dialogue among the Asian rival claimants. Using divide-and-rule tactics, it played them off against one another. He held friendly bilateral talks on the sidelines of the conference with Vietnamese President Truong Tan Sang and Brunei Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah, hoping his (Hu's) hosts were ready to work with Beijing to push for mutually acceptable ways their disputes through peaceful consultations. While Hu was doing this backdoor lobbying on the Philippines' allies in Asean, he pointedly kept the Filipino delegation in suspense until the last hour on the arrangements of the bilateral meeting with Mr. Aquino, then rubbing salt on wounds.

The President had told the aides that the meeting with Hu was his top priority not using the summit as an opportunity to attract investments into the Philippines. He was at the wrong place. Putin has said that the opening of the new Apec pension bridge in Vladivostok across the Golden Horn to rival San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge and the modernizing of the port city in the host of $20 billion were intended to draw investments into Russia's far-eastern regions.

The Department of Foreign Affairs has dismissed the chance to scheduling challenge, but a challenge that turned out to be a bigger challenge than anticipated." Foreign Secretary Albert del Rosario said the President was disappointed. "I think that a lot could have been achieved in terms of a meeting between the leaders, for them to be able to share various points of view, and I think that also, we could've had a chance for the Philippines but also for China. I think this is obviously a missed opportunity," Del Rosario said.

In a press briefing before flying to Vladivostok, the President said he planned to conduct "a hard exchange of thoughts" with Hu in order "to discuss the risks from diplomatic stories." The President has said that during his state visit to China in August 2011. Since then, relations between the two countries have been going downhill.

Experienced visitors to China, including seasoned Adegations invited by Beijing, have learned the lesson that the inscrutable Chinese keep their cards close to the vest, no matter whether they would ever meet with leaders (or with what leaders in the hierarchy) at the Palace of the People in the Forbidden City.

Now the outcome of the standoff over the Spratlys and Scarborough Shoals rests more on current than four-year cycles, even as Chinese maritime vessels have made their presence permanent at the rock formations claimed by the Philippines as part of their former economic zone. What's certain is that Mr. Aquino will never have another chance to meet Hu again in a face-to-face diplomatic encounter.

China is undergoing a top leadership change in the Communist Party Congress within two months. Hu, expected to step down next month, this vice president, Xi Jinping, has been set at right for June than a week until stalemate's power struggle in the Politburo.

The 'after-Puno' mess

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

BY ROSHNEE the post, former Justice Undersecretary Tito Puno has seemingly put to rest all the controversy that has surrounded him since virtually the beginning of the PNoy administration.

But Puno has also left in his wake a Department of the Interior and Local Government and police force rolled in speculation, doubts and accusations, a team that Interior Secretary Jesse Mar Robredo will have to clean up if all the gains made in the area such as the downward trend in the PNoy administration are to be preserved and widened.

Before his resignation on Monday, Puno found himself embroiled in allegations of having "forced" his way into the offices and private residence of the late Interior Secretary Jesse Robredo, as well as the alleged "pilferage" of "after-Puno" documents pertaining to investigations being undertaken. They followed initial reports of supposedly unexplained finances being sold to the Philippine National Police. Puno's involvement being a big to fasted he made even to the holding for the final exit going out.

Ironically, said a senior PNP official, the bidding for the post was one of the most "open and transparent" under labor by the police have. "The media are witnesses," the official pointed out, pointing to the fact that Puno had been appointed at the last documents, were attended by observers, including nongovernment organizations and the media covering the police headquarters. "Every thing was above board," declared the official.

In the first few months of the Aquino Administration, Mar already sought to clear Puno's name, saying the visits he paid to Robredo's office and administration unit were at President Aquino's behest, and that he was accompanied by DILG officials, including Robredo's immediate assistant.

So why did Puno resign? He said he "did not want to subject his family, personnel, and perhaps Pnoy's desire to spare P-Noy any more negative publicity linked to his person and actions." Some others point to the divisions that still persist with in the DILG administration, to a split between Ecole led released and reassigned officials with his own handled (if nonetheless not) leadership during the months of the seat, helping his age with his sharp southern charm, the hearings, and with his measured and tearful candidate explanation for his vote for impeachment.

But in his role as Senate President overseeing the legislative debates on such contentious measures as the Reproductive Health bill, Enrile has not let his personal likes and dislikes get in the bill's progress nor has even raised issues that have been rehashed and resurrected ad nauseam.

But one he has scheduled a privilege speech on the RH bill, but as far has not scheduled when or if he will deliver it. This latest suspicion that the sponsor of the bill and the primary champion of the bill cricket than help clarify the issues so that the senators can finally vote on it.

If Enrile showed intellectual acumen and moral courage in his handling of the Corona impeachment trial, he showed political finesse in the course of the debates over the RH bill when most of the highest order and a penchant for handing over backward merely to accommodate RH opponents.

SENATOR Enrile should deliver his pending privilege speech post haste, if only to get off his chest his remaining doubts and misgivings on the RH bill, and then allow the senators to discuss and vote on the bill already.

The Philippine people have made up its mind about the need for importance of, and couples' right to access to all methods of family planning. What we're seeing with the undemocratic, unreasonable holding pattern on the bill in the leaders' pandering to a small tribe of the Filipino people who still cannot bring themselves to help Filipino men and women achieve their own reproductive goals and freedoms.

Not with the program, guys and gals. It's time the Philippines caught up with the rest of the enlightened world.

More on the mysterious Luzon jars

LOOKING BACK

Ambeth R. Ocampo

C. E. HOSIE, customs historian of note, is known to Filipino historians for an anonymous 15th century manuscript on the Philippines referred to as the "Boxer Codex." This 307 page handwritten chronicle would not be very different from other travel accounts of the period except that 75 of the 76 illustrations portray scenes from the Philippines and comprise some of the earliest impressionistic images of our ancestors made centuries before the invention of the digital camera.

I had the good fortune of meeting C. E. Hosie in his home outside London two decades ago, when I went to see if he had any knowledge of a "Boxer Chinese or Japanese, which he recommended for my serious research on wax, and then took out an ancient map of the world I was not familiar with. I was to learn only this year that it was the Fra Mauro map of 1459. This map was unique for its illustrations of the various peoples he from Japan, like the Americans, who were represented by Indians. One people were described as "Brazil," proof that Luzon was the people were known to Japanese map makers as "Brazil" as early as 1459.

"Brazil" in Japan (ブラジル) originally pertained to jars imported from Luzon that were highly prized because they were believed to preserve tea leaves better than any other storage vessel. In 1594 Haya Sakurawaza, a merchant from Sakai, returned to Osaka, Honshu Luzon with 2,000 jars and paid for his high price he made a fortune overnight. Unfortunately, these Luzon jars or "Brazil wares" were admired and later coveted by Japanese Shogun, and that is what made a simple story the stuff of legend. Haya Sakurawaza was later known as Hasan (Luzon) Sukezaemon. His story was made more romantic as the jars became a recognized Japanese treasure in the 1950s.

Shigetsu (Sukezaemon (1600-1778) compiled many stories of the past and published these in 1804 as "Chaso Kanwa." The basic story of Hasan Sukezaemon is as follows:

In the year Mizunoto-Mi of the Bunroku era (1593), a merchant named Hasan Sukezaemon of Saya Sakai owned by name, went abroad to Luzon and brought back fifty tea leaf jars. The following year he asked the shogunate of the town, Ishida Mabuneado, to present Chinese embroidery, tea caddies, and two tea stand chest together with the tea leaf jars, to Lord Hideyoshi. The lord looked at the jars, and requested Rikyu to classify them and to set a price on each. He had them all exhibited in the room next to his inner reception room, and put on sale for those who wished to buy them. In four or five days all but three jars were sold. Therefore Yodo-e-sama ordered that the remaining three boxes. But he was told they had already been taken for purchase by the lord himself. Since then such excellent tea leaf jars have come to be called meibutsu."

Recent research has proven that the Hosie Collection came to us—and to the world—because of Hasan Sukezaemon's story as copied by another historian. Hosie's collection is valuable because we say that Hasan Sukezaemon is legendary and might not even have been a real person, but the story of the Luzon jars, true or not, continues to fascinate people.

In Japan these prized jars are capped with silk and further decorated with red silk cords. Rarely is written for or on these and some jars are even given auspicious names. One such jar associated with Hideyoshi was known as "Shoki" (洞庫 literally "cave storage"). Another was called "Tsutsui Jar" large enough to hold seven pounds of tea leaves, owned successively by Ikuko, Nobunaga and Hideyoshi. Other famous Luzon jars with names are "Jango-O" (for to its markings of "O" King) and Jotai (Shingo's "Jotai" (Pale pot-bellied, and "Kaki-no-Hatsu" (Persimmon).

It's a bit of an exaggeration to say that these Luzon jars were worth their weight in gold, but according to an extant bill of sale, in 1594, the Tea superintendent Kanaya Jisshin could weigh Luzon jars in Kyoto for 15 kan (around 1.5 kilos or 3.3 pounds) of gold. Hideyoshi, who attended a banquet on the purchase of gold, ceremony and Luzon jars that came by ship from Manila; thus, customs inspectors was very thorough. Some were harsh and ruthless the person received before they reached the port, and those were forked out from under the lord's nose.

What did these Luzon jars have that made them so expensive? What made these jars so special readers would risk imprisonment, torture, or death just to smuggle them into Japan? Some unlikely nationalistic people would like to believe that these jars were made in the Philippines. Perhaps the time or grandfathers of the course, dark "barangay" jars of the Visayas?

Well, almost all the Japanese sources agree that the Luzon jars were made in the Philippines and were actually Chinese provincial ware of the Song-Yuan (1279-1368) or Yuan (1279-1368) dynasties made in Luzon. These dark-toned jars with a long history are considered important cultural objects or "meibutsu," and I am only hope to undertake more research and photograph at least one fully documented Luzon jar during my present appointment as visiting professor at Sophia University in Tokyo.

Comments are welcome at ocampo@pldt.net.ph

The real Stella L

MEET PNOY at the University of the Philippines Diliman's College of Social Sciences and Philosophy there will be a flurry of activities including a weeklong exhibit to mark the 80th anniversary of martial law; all at Palma Hall (All building). A symposium and the relaunch of "Bisa," a collection of essays written by activists recounting their first dating martial law are scheduled on the afternoon of Sept. 17. There will be another symposium with former Vice President Teofisto Guingona on Sept. 18, and a concert featuring performances by activist artists and singers on the AS steps on Sept. 21, 6-9 p.m.

PINOY KASI

Michael L. Tan

On Sept. 19, several films related to martial law will be shown, including Lino Brocka's "Insiang" and "Stella L," about an activist Catholic nun working with the urban poor. A discussion will follow on the film and the life of a Catholic nun, Sonsie Chipongian Batong, but Sister Chayang herself would say the film is about activist nuns in general.

There were many of these nuns, coming from different congregations, but having had the privilege of working with activists of the time, they "woke up" to what is going on in the Catholic social action programs. I can say the Religious of the Good Shepherd or RGS stand out during that difficult era.

The congregation was founded in the 19th century by St. Mary Euphrasia in France, and was established in the Philippines by Irish sisters who arrived in 1911 and put up St. Joseph's School in Iloilo City, Capiz, Cebu and Cagayan de Oro. There are more than 300 Filipino RGS nuns today, working in different parts of the Philippines and overseas. I suspect many readers know them mainly for their Sagrado puso and peanut brittle, but even those defenders are part of their special focus on women in difficult circumstances, abused mothers, the prostituted and battered, slum dwellers, the landless, and overseas workers.

Sister Christine

There were many Good Shepherd sisters who were nuns, plain and non-dedicated to those around, but I can only write of a few for today, including two dear friends who passed away recently. I may refer to Christine Tan, who headed the ARBOR or Association of Major Religious Superiors in the Philippines (Operational Concept), the final difficult years of martial law. Even as Sister Carolina Sy and the bishop-signed "revised syllabus ban" with the dictatorship, the ARBOR women were making strong statements on martial law calling for a respect for human rights, the release of political detainees and the return of civilian rule, and publishing formerly unpublished news suppressed by the martial law government.

Despite her high position as ARBOR head, Sister Christine chose to live in an urban poor community, in the RGS house described in an article published after her death in the Inquirer Review of Southeast Asia as having "two rooms with no floor, and no toilet, on the armpit of Manila."

In that article, Christine described how she was summoned to the Vatican, walking through 13 doors to meet a cardinal who threatened excommunication if she did not cooperate with the martial law regime. She was appalled, not so much by the cardinal's browning, as by the Italian spending thousands of pesos for her airfare, when they could rather responsibly have "spent" it providing a meal. She ran positive sidelines services, and died in October 2003.

Sister Christine represented a new breed of Catholic nuns who wanted the Church to go beyond the four walls of churches and convents and to serve communities, often the poorest of the poor. This solidarity was intense, and for four RGS nuns, it meant prison and torture. Two were arrested in Mindanao, Sisters Mary Consuelo Chaidez, Concepcion Conti, Virginia Demaya and Collenette Lontoc boarded the ill-fated ship MV Cotabato on Nov. 21, 1983. The ship sank, killing 200 people including the nuns. Survivors remember the sisters as refusing to save themselves, helping other passengers, especially Mary Chaidez, an ill-vets, and making sure they got on the first lifeboats.

Sister Pilar

Last weekend we lost another Good Shepherd nun, Sr Pilar Serrano, who is mainly known as the founder of Pax Life! Philippines. People are always surprised when I tell them that Sister Pilar was also the founder of the Philippine Anorexia Health (AH) groups. For my friendship with Sister Pilar dates back to the 1970s, when she, like other Good Shepherd nuns, was involved in social activism.

At one time Sister Pilar was arrested by the military and accused of being "Communist Leader" of the communist New People's Army (NPA). Her crime was to have a healthy "subversion" was mainly in her opposition to the way multinational companies were marketing infant formula. She was with a group called Inmuc that promoted breastfeeding and campaigned for strict regulations on infant formula. From breastfeeding advocacy, she went on to establish Pro-Life and to promote natural family planning methods, including Billings ovulation method.

Sister Pilar and I started to work on her dream but real work, with her frequently texting comments on my columns. I wouldn't say she and I were on opposite sides of family planning. She supported natural family planning, even providing my community with resources, but we spoke on the topic on my classes. I believe, too, that in both the "pro" and "anti-" RH camps, there are shared concerns that family planning might be wrongly peddled as the solution to poverty and social inequity.

Sister Julia

It was Sister Pilar who called me in July about the death of another close friend from RGS, Sr Mary Julia Gonzales. In the 1970s Sister Julia chose to serve in Isabela, a province ruled by feudal landlords, logging companies and traditional politicians. It was hard not to be impressed by Sister Julia and the other nuns, who lived in a nipa hut with no running water, no toilet. They were there to help the landless workers, two of the most vulnerable, and impoverished, sectors.

Sister Julia's ministry was a quiet one, away from the headlines and symposia, but she touched the lives of many—not just the peasants she worked with but also young students who were sent to her area to "organize." She spoke her mind, but never once did I hear her preach ideology to those in the corporate programs during Lent of 1979; now Allen Buckley, then a seminarian and now a lawyer, I asked him if he recall e-mail me his thoughts about Sister Julia and he sent quite a few, captured in a closing sentence: "Julia's life remains an inspiration and a constant reminder to me and my family to live simply, to be very much present to those we serve, silent and observant, and to stay steeped in meaningful spirituality, nurtured and carried out in her usual unnoticeable ways."

Allen's remarks would well apply as well for the other Good Shepherd sisters, the real and much loved Sisters Stella L.

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Protect environment defenders

LETTERS

FILE NOMINEE, Secretariat for Social Action Justice and Peace (Nassa) of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP), vehemently condemns the attack on environmental defenders and indigenous peoples' Tinuray Bendijo and Lucendo Manalo last Sept. 4 in Narra, Limbuayan Peninsula. The attack is deplorable and inhuman.

Manalo was hanging his 12-year-old son Jordan to school when they were ambushed. He was wounded during the incident, but his son died instantly.

We are alarmed by the incident. We believe that the attack is part of a campaign to wipe out all those who dare to oppose Mindoro Earth's from environmentally destructive operations that are inimical to people's rights.

We understand that Manalo is leading the chair of his barangay tribe in their ancestral domain, the land questioned the entry of logging and mining operations within his community's Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) as required under the law. He has led his fellow IPs from neighboring ancestral domains in calling for a moratorium as all forms of mining and they go their official ancestral domain claims. And together with local Catholic bishops and concerned groups, he had opposed the position for a 'shift of his. Hence we protect the Fissile Range Forest which is now included in the mining claims of several companies. The protest is aimed at protecting their ancestral mountain and the watershed that serves three major river-growing areas in the province.

It is very disheartening to note that those who protect these areas, like Tinuray Manalo and his supporters, have been increasingly made victims of the laws they protect. Weak statutes are becoming very common in those who can for the earth. Those fighting for their rights against environmental destruction, mining operations, logging and land grabbing are targets of persecution and attacks. We call upon our people to rally behind Tinuray Manalo's efforts to assert and protect the rights of the Indigenous tribe and their ancestral domain. Let not the death of his son be without meaning.

We call upon President Aquino and Environment Secretary Ramon Paje to heed the call of the intimidating advocates for a moratorium as all mining operations in the country until a new administration takes power.

We call for a prompt and honest investigation of this crime by the local police to bring the perpetrators to justice. We also call for an immediate and impartial investigation at the national level to seek the truth and bring the masterminds of this senseless crime to face the consequences of this dastardly act in order to end the cycle of violence and impunity.

We urge the President and government officials to protect, as a state obligation, human rights, especially of those who are merely protecting the environment from destructive mining and logging operations.

—BISHOP NOEL M. PABELLO, D.D.
national director,
National Secretariat for Social Action, Justice and Peace (Nassa)

A legacy from Jesse, model for 'daang matuwid'

THIS REFERS to Prof. Isidro Cortes Perlas' exclusive titled "Binondo, Intramuros story late Jesse's death" (Inquirer, 8/05/12) which stated that Secretary Jesse Robredo's "performance of his duties which endeared him not only to the poor and the marginalized ... was also to the local governments and communities whose capacity development he was extensively and successfully pursuing, unpopular as it is of very important, very powerful ones."

Those with the advent of the credible and competent Interior Administration Secretary Robredo and the boost to candidacy, down to earth development workers are still vulnerable—although in a much lesser degree than before—to the aggressions of the remaining remnants of the culture of impunity. After all, that culture has evolved through the dynamics of two reinforcing factors: (1) the influence in government and society of powerful people who are resistant to social change and modernity; and (2) the marginalization of the majority of the people who have become less capacitated, less productive and less competitive after suffering decades of poverty and to think that the Philippines' neighbors by and large have made a lot more progress since two to five decades ago.

The Aquino administration which is drawing more adherence to its "daang matuwid" and still enjoys high approval ratings has the chance to help the poorest people to uplift and safeguard the legacy Robredo's legacies. One of these, the aquatic development program for local governments and communities, was used for the formation of Naga City from a third class city into a progressive growth center and first class city in the third region. Naga is in present state of development can serve as a model for micro-level, sustainable development approaches that could empower local governments and communities and to eradicate poverty (which breeds the culture of impunity) as well as to ensure greater balance, symmetry and harmony in the environment, and sustainability of natural resources.

—EDMUNDO ESMOQUEL
esmoquel@gmail.com

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P-Noy a sincere leader?

PRESIDENT AQUINO is about to complete his three years in office (one-half of his term of office) by the end of May next year. However, I regret to say that up to the present he has not displayed enough guts to properly lead his people. He is the country he billed as a leader to whom others look to for help and assistance.

Take, for instance, the impeachment case against Chief Justice Renato Corona. Obviously, emasculating and all the powers of the presidency when MR congressmen appointed by him voted to convict Corona, despite the latter's manifestation in the hearing of his innocence.

Only the naive would not believe that the move to remove Corona was principally Malacañang-inspired. At first, there were some doubts about the motive, but later events affirmed what many people believed.

Undoubtedly, President Aquino disregarded the role of senatorial in the Supreme Court, by passing all incumbent justices of the Supreme Court, particularly the three most senior justices, by appointing Junior Maria Lourdes Sereno as Chief Justice. I am sure the senior justices were disturbed.

It is hoped that we can still recover from this big blow.

—REYNOSO TINGSON JR.,
Deputy Law Officer,
Career Executive Service and
Bro. Salutarian Brown,
San Beda, Cavite City

It's better that new CJ is beholden to God

At 10:07 of our country's most democratic institutions, the Philippine Council of Evangelical Churches, the largest network of evangelical Christians in the country, said our voice in the unspoken "issue regarding Chief Justice Maria Lourdes Sereno's recent statements in awaiting her appointment to God," we say it as a point of gratitude to Divine Providence. It reminds from 1 Mildred cared that "there is no authority except by God's appointment, and the authorities that exist have been instituted by God" (Romans 13: 1b).

In acknowledging the sovereign hand of God, the new Chief Justice shows that she accurately prefers to be grateful to the Lord, rather than feel beholden to men. The judges and lawyers of the country must be grateful to God, not to politicians.

Such statements, given in the context of one's religious belief, should not make anxious judges. Neither should accused lawmakers and other public officials be anxious. Instead of feeling alarmed, we should find hope in the fact that Chief Justice Sereno is deeply held Christian faith espouses the cause of truth, justice and independence, while upholding honesty and selfless service. There are principles which are hereby really used in practice.

—BISHOP EFRAIM M. TENDERO, D.D., D.D.,
national director,
Philippine Council of Evangelical Churches,
info@pceconline.org

Special perks for SSS staff but none for SSS members

I HAVE been a Social Security System member since 1992. Over the past years I have been losing my SSS personal loan privilege as financial services. I have been made to understand that SSS employees have the privilege of availing of low interest rate for their salary or member's contribution. So, every time I renewed my loan, there always was a corresponding increase in the amount. The maximum SSS loan is P500,000 (minus advance interest and service charge) and this is what I have been getting in the past eight years.

Through these years, many SSS chief executive officers and presidents have come and gone, but not one of them lifted a finger to increase the maximum amount of the SSS personal loan. Again I say, why?

But last Sept. 3, President Aquino awarded the officers and employees of SSS a P10,000 bonus in recognition of good management and the growth of SSS' pension funds. Any word to the president, any congressman, any Senator, any lucky one you get, have early a Christmas gift).

Meanwhile, only the SSS pensioners were allowed to make a voluntary loan. Why were SSS workers the only fixed victims? How about us, active members? Isn't it the SSS members' own business being loaned out for that purpose?

—JENNIFER MOLLANA,
12D3, Gonzalez St.,
Loyola Heights, Quezon City

Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

Across the NATION

Court orders arrest of 54 farmers

Bail too stiff for peasants charged with stealing coconuts

By Dalila T. Mallari Jr.
Inquirer Southern Luzon

LUCENA CITY—At least 54 farmers in the Bicolano Peninsula are facing arrest and have turned fugitives after they were charged with qualified theft for doing what they thought was normal for them—harvest coconuts from trees that they had planted.

A leader of a farmers' group in Quezon and other farmers saw no hiding because they can't afford to pay the P50,000 bail each ordered by a court that issued the arrest warrants for them.

They have been charged with qualified theft for harvesting coconuts from trees that the farmers said they planted on land being subjected to agrarian reform.

Manuel Lavares, head of the Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas in Bicolo Peninsula, and landlords in the towns of San Francisco, San Andres, Buenavista and San Narciso often meet to file charges against farmers to stop them from claiming land under the government's agrarian reform program.

Mr. said farmers subjected to this kind of harassment often are forced to hide or spend on litigation which eats up money for food, shelter, clothing and other basic needs.

According to Geronimo, the 54 farmers who are now wanted need at least P3 million for bail.

He cited the case of one led Bicolano, a farmer in San Andres town, who was arrested last Sept. 11 on charges of stealing coconuts. Bicolano is a tenant in the estate owned by the Reyes clan in Barrio Buenavista.

Last week, farmer Francis Hernandez and his mother Minda, of Buenavista town, were also arrested and detained at the provincial jail on charges of coconut theft. Also tenants of the Reyes family, the two were found on Sunday upon instructions of the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), said Dimaliw.

Quezon Board Member Vivee Reyes, who belongs to the Reyes clan, said the land where the farmers were arrested legally belonged to his family but that it had long been divided among his siblings.

The Reyes clan owns vast pieces of property in the towns of San Narciso, San Andres and Buenavista.

Board Member Reyes, however, said all of the family's landholdings have been subjected to agrarian reform.

Geronimo appealed to President Aquino and the DAR to immediately resolve all pending cases that delay distribution of farm lands, particularly in the 1,270-hectare Hacienda Minlan in San Francisco.

The Minlan family petitioned for exemption from agrarian reform, declaring their land to be a "ranch." The petition has yet to be acted upon by Agrarian Reform Secretary Virgilio de los Reyes.

2 win P300-M lotto pot

By Jayrose T. Garcil

THE NATIONAL grand lottery draw on Wednesday produced two new millionaires after the jackpot prize eluded bettors for more than two months.

Two winners, one betting in Batangas and the other in Manila, respectively, would split the nearly P300 million pot.

Eight million combinations were bet on for Wednesday's draw, said Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office media coordinator Joseph Morgia. Sales reached P382 million, he said.

The odds of winning was one in 20.59 million.

The Grand Lotto prize has been won thrice in this year alone. The first was more than seven months ago in Feb. 22, wherein two lucky bettors also split the more than P50000 jackpot. The second was in July 4, wherein a lone bettor took the more than P165 million in jackpot.

Since the Grand Lotto draw began in May 2010, it has only produced 18 winners, Morgia said. Draws are held every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday.

On boosting the Grand Lotto pot's still recent to the minimum guaranteed amount of P50 million, Morgia said.

'Pawikan' dead after rescue, ends up eaten

By Dalila T. Mallari Jr.
Inquirer Southern Luzon

LUCENA CITY—Fishermen in the coastal village of Lipata in Padre Burgos, Quezon, on Wednesday feasted on the meat of a sea turtle they earlier rescued but which died while in captivity, a Quezon official said.

Jane Gerubbien-Ibarle, Quezon public information officer, said her office received a report early Wednesday about a rescued sea turtle, locally called pawikan, in Padre Burgos along the coast of Tayabas Bay.

She said authorities rushed to the site with staff members of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources Office and the provincial government to oversee the tagging and protection of the stranded turtle.

"But when we found was only the empty shell of the giant turtle. The coastal residents butchered the meat when the turtle died," Ibarle said.

Ibarle said the turtle was accidentally entangled in the net of a local fisherman on Monday evening.

"We were told that the turtle was already weak when it was brought to shore. Unfortunately, we received the report already late," Ibarle said.

Ibarle said she told residents that harvesting turtle for its meat even if it's already dead is still unlawful.

Once a marine habitat ruined by destructive fishing practices, the Tayabas Bay off Quezon, Marinduque and Batangas is now a sanctuary for endangered sea turtles.

Minimally Invasive Interventional Therapy – a cancer cure that starve tumor to death

Interventional therapy may not be too familiar to a lot but it is a modern high-tech minimally invasive treatment that is now the answer to nearly all cancer types. Introduced in the body for diagnosis and local treatment, this is performed under the guidance of medical imaging equipment utilizing precision instrument of special catheter and guide wire.

This minimally invasive treatment of cancer has a lot of advantages. First, it passage more potent drug infusion therapy which is administered directly through the artery of tumor tissue to enable it to achieve a huge dose of medicine. Second, it boasts of a lesser overall damage to the body, less toxicity side effect, fewer complications, but with faster recovery of systemic conditions. Third, the embolization inhibits tumor development by shrinking it, thus the patient has the opportunity to withstand the next treatment and his immune therapy will even tone side effects. Fourth, Interventional therapy has good effect on patients with advanced stage of cancer with hemorrhage and finally, esophageal and biliary stent in benign cases likely improve symptoms of tumor compression to make better the quality of life of patients.

With the introduction of Professor Peng Xian Chi of Guangzhou Modern Cancer Hospital of the modification benefits of interventional therapy for preoperative, postoperative and patients who missed the opportunity to undergo surgery, more and more patients are considering the treatment. To date, there are already 6,000 patients who have undergone the treatment without their chest pierced of stay in hospital and yet, their recovery is notably fast.

This treatment is administered for different purposes. For instance, modern artery interventional embolotherapy for uterine cancer patients is carried out mainly through the arterial infusion to prove the way for inclusion embolism. Interventional therapy is a mini invasive therapy with a 2 mm cut in the skin in which arterial perfusion device needle is to be induced at the designated site at the shortest possible time targeting directly the cancer. This is done mainly to increase the effectiveness of the concentrated medicine and speeding the duration of action to fight cancer cells with minor damage to surrounding tissues. Embolization blocks cancer blood supply to stop the blood circulation and "starve the tumor" which is its main goal. A patient can check out of the hospital after 5-7 days and execute normal activities after 2 weeks. Thereafter, the succeeding cycle is dependent on the treatment needs and condition of the patient. Current treatment procedure may help cervical cancer operations go smoothly and can completely resect the tumor. For those who cannot undergo operation, there is a palliative effect by minimizing pain and extend survival rate.

If you have experience such modern concerning, cancer treatments and has inquiries kindly call (02)221, 0931-4642454 (02)2403333 or visit Unit A 1302, 6780 Ayala Avenue, Makati City. Website: www.asiancancer.com

Reyes aide held for Ortega slay dies in hospital

By Redempto Anda
Inquirer Southern Luzon

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY—One of the suspects in the Gerry Ortega murder case died on Tuesday in a local hospital after a gunfight here with a military-related group.

Dexterol Leslas died at Palawan Provincial Hospital, said his former neighbors and board member Rolando Soriano.

Soriano said Leslas was suffering from a debilitating kidney disease which was caused but by his arrest and detention early this year.

Leslas was among six persons charged with murder in connection with the January 2011 assassination of Ortega.

Formerly employed at the provincial Capitol, Leslas was the official photographer of Vice Gov. Clara Reyes, wife of murder suspect at large and former Gov. Joel Reyes.

Leslas, whose case was undergoing trial at the Regional Trial Court here,

The DOTC and the LRTA are inviting interested parties to participate in the OPEN and TRANSPARENT bidding process for the P203 MILLION REHABILITATION AND RESTORATION OF LRT LIGHT RAIL VEHICLES PROJECT.

DOTC

INVITATION TO BID
P203M LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
REHABILITATION AND RESTORATION OF LIGHT RAIL VEHICLES (LRVs) PROJECT

The Light Rail Transit 1 (Green Line) is a 20.7-kilometer, 18-station railway system that has endpoints in Roosevelt in the North and Baclaran in the South. About 500,000 commuters use Line 1 daily. It also connects with existing railways systems; passengers of Line 1 can transfer from Doroteo Jose Station to Line 2's (Blue Line) Recto Station, while passengers of Line 3 (Yellow Line) have easy access with Line 1's EDSA-Taft Station.

To maintain the smooth operations of Line 1, the DOTC has implemented the P1.062 billion **LRT Safety, Reliability and Capacity Improvement Program** to, among others, repair and rehabilitate key components of the system. This is in fulfillment of President PNoy's commitment to provide Convenient, Affordable, Reliable, Efficient, and Safe transportation. The DOTC is now inviting interested parties to join the bidding for two of the five components of the said LRT program.

Both show extensive corrosion, while front windshield are cracked out.

These damaged LRVs will be repaired.

1 Rehabilitation of 21 Dilapidated Units LRT 1 (BN LRVs) (Bokid) (Project No. 6) Php 110 Million

The car bodies of these 21 units have corroded and rusted out from the 15 years of use while they were last rehabilitated. Rehabilitation should bring an improved appearance and reliability in the old BN cars.

Issuance of Bid Documents	:	14 September 2012 - 4 October 2012
Bids and Time of Pre-Bid Conference	:	17 September 2012, 9:30 AM
Bids and Time of Deadline of Submission and Opening of Bids	:	4 October 2012, 2:00 PM
Cost of Bidding Documents	:	Php 15,000.00

- The DOTC-LRT will receive the Bid Envelopes in which Bid Securities is of mentioned Quantity.
- Bidders should have completed within the past three (3) years from the date of submission and receipt of bids a contract similar to the Project. The bidder must submit a copy of the Certificate of Completion issued by the owner of the contract, and the Certificate of Acceptance issued by the Bidding Documents.
- Bidding shall be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using a non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act (RA) 9184, otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act.
- Bidders should have an Average Annual Financial Capacity (AAFC) of at least Php 55,000,000.00 which is equivalent to the ABC.
- Bidders shall comply with the Technical Specifications and other requirements as specified in the Bidding Documents.
- The bid must be delivered to the DOTC-LRT at the address below on or before the date and time specified in the Bidding Documents. Late bids shall not be accepted.
- All bids must be accompanied by a bid security in any of the acceptable forms and in the amount stated in the Bidding Documents.
- Bid opening shall be conducted on the date and time specified in the Bidding Documents at the address below. Bidders' representatives who are present shall sign a register evidencing their attendance. In the case of non-appearance of the bidder, the bid shall be opened in the presence of the BAC and the commission's representative.
- The DOTC-LRT reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

2 Restoration of Two (2) 3rd Generation Nishi-Shoyo LRVs (Bokid) (Project No. 18) Php 93 Million

Two (2) third generation **Nishi Shoyo** vehicles (1741&1268) were involved in separate train collision incidents in Baltazar and Roosevelt. These two LRVs require body repair and replacement of damaged parts to put them in commercial operational condition.

Issuance of Bid Documents	:	14 September 2012 - 4 October 2012
Bids and Time of Pre-Bid Conference	:	17 September 2012, 9:30 AM
Bids and Time of Deadline of Submission and Opening of Bids	:	4 October 2012, 2:00 PM
Cost of Bidding Documents	:	Php 15,000.00

The prices and description herein are provided for information only. It is the responsibility of the prospective bidders to determine the correct prices and conditions of the contract by himself/herself. Bidders shall secure bidding documents as specified in the Bidding Documents. In the event of discrepancy between the Invitation to Bid and the Bidding Documents, the information in the latter shall prevail.

For further information, please refer to:

Atty. Catherine Jennifer P. Gonzales
Assistant Secretary for Procurement and Control, Head, BAC Secretariat
Department of Transportation and Communications
Unit 150, 15th Floor, The Columbia Tower
Ortigas Wack-Wack, Ortigas Avenue
1550 Mandaluyong City

Tel No.: (+632) 654-9720
Facsimile No.: (+632) 654-9723
E-mail Address: dotcbacsec@yahoo.com
Website: www.dotc.gov.ph

Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & COMMUNICATIONS

Requests for Expression of Interest for Feasibility Studies
PROPOSED BUKIDNON AIRPORT, and the UPGRADE of the EXISTING SURIGAO and NAGA AIRPORT PROJECTS

1. The DOTC, through the CY 2011 and CY 2012 Transport Studies Fund, intends to use an approved portion of these to undertake the Feasibility Study for the proposed Bukidnon Airport, and the upgrade of existing Surigao and Naga Airport Projects.

		Approved Budget for the Contract
Feasibility Study for the proposed Bukidnon Airport	:	P4,000,000.00
Feasibility Study for the upgrade of the existing Surigao Airport	:	P7,495,237.12
Feasibility Study for the upgrade of the existing Naga Airport	:	P7,504,762.88

Bids received in excess of the respective ABC/approved above shall be automatically rejected at the opening of the financial proposals.

2. The DOTC now calls for the submission of eligibility documents for the conduct of Feasibility Study for the proposed Bukidnon Airport and the upgrade of existing Surigao and Naga Airport Projects. Interested consultants must submit their eligibility documents since before the following dates at the DOTC, Multi-Purpose Hall, 16th Floor, The Columbia Tower, Ortigas Wack-Wack, Ortigas Avenue, Mandaluyong City:

Bukidnon Airport	:	September 24, 2012, 1:00PM
Surigao Airport	:	September 25, 2012, 1:00PM
Naga Airport	:	September 26, 2012, 2:00PM

Applications for eligibility will be evaluated based on a non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion.

3. The BAC shall draw up the short list of consultants from those who have submitted Expression of Interest and Eligibility Documents and have been determined as eligible in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act 9184 (RA 9184), otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act, and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR). The short list shall consist of four (4) prospective bidders who shall be entitled to submit bids. The criteria and rating system for short listing of the bidders are:

a. Applicable experience of the firm	:	30%
b. Qualifications of personnel who may be assigned to the job (key staff's relevant work experience and applicable academic qualifications)	:	40%
c. Current workload relative to capacity	:	30%

The "Rating" multiplied by their respective "Weights" gives the weighted "Scores." These are added to determine the total score for the Qualifications. The Applicants shall then be ranked according to their "Total Scores" and the top four (4) shall be considered as constituting the shortlist and qualify them to bid for the contract/project. Should less than four responsive bids apply for eligibility and short listing, pass the eligibility check, and/or pass the minimum score required in the short listing, the BAC shall consider the same bidders' applicants must collect a minimum weighted score of 50 (NOT 75) from 75 to qualify for shortlisting.

- Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, partnerships, or organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines.
- The Procuring Entity shall evaluate bids using the Quality-Cost Based Evaluation Selection (QCBE/QCBS) procedure. The DOTC shall indicate the weights to be allocated to the Technical and Financial Proposals. The criteria and rating system for the evaluation of bids shall be provided in the Instructions to Bidders.
- The contract shall be completed within 120 calendar days from the date of the Notice to Proceed.
- The DOTC reserves the right to reject any and all bids, annul the bidding process, or not award the contract at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

The prices and descriptions herein are provided for information only. It is the responsibility of the prospective bidders to determine the correct prices and conditions of the contract by himself/herself. Bidders shall secure bidding documents as specified in the Bidding Documents. In the event of any discrepancy between the Invitation to Bid and the Bidding Documents, the information in the latter shall prevail.

For further information, please refer to:

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Assistant Secretary for Procurement and Control, Head, BAC Secretariat
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Website: www.dotc.gov.ph

Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & COMMUNICATIONS

Small mine firm's ex-guard suspect in attack

Man held for Subanen's ambush worked for security agency

DAMBOANGA CITY—One of the two suspects arrested for the Sept. 4 ambush of a tribal chieftain that killed the tribal leader's son worked for a security agency that has been guarding a small-scale mining firm, whose operations in a Zamboanga del Sur town are being questioned.

Timuay Lorenzo Manda, a leader of the Subanen tribe, said suspect Mudzir Luan was a member of MTK Security Agency, which was hired by the mining firm Lapak Pigcalagan Mining Corp. to guard its operations in Bayog, Zamboanga del Sur.

The security agency is owned by Alexander Tupching, a retired brigadier general.

The other suspect, Celso Ering, is a relative of Luan, according to Manda, whose 11-year-old son, Datulan, was killed during the ambush.

Manda, who is at the forefront of the fight for ancestral domain of his tribespeople, was driving his son to school when five to eight armed men fired at him. He suffered a bullet wound in the back, but his son suffered fatal gunshot wounds that led to his death.

Tension

Tension flared up last year between Manda's Pigcalagan-Subanen Kr Kayag and Lapak Pigcalagan Mining Corp. after Lapak employed the services of MTK Security Agency.

MTK owner, Tupching, in a phone interview, confirmed that Luan worked for his security agency but was discharged one years ago for indiscipline, case firing.

"We discharged him for indiscriminate firing while he was assigned in Cebu," Tupching said.

Manda, on the other hand, said he was thankful that the suspects have been arrested as he sees no reason for their to attack him.

"I know them, but I do not know why they did it. Let's just wait for them to talk about why they did it," Manda said.

Chief Supt. Napoleon Estilles, police chief for Western Mindanao, said police are not also looking into personal grudge as motive for the ambush.

Robbery and murder and frustrated murder cases were filed against Luan and Ering at the provincial prosecutor's office.

Illegal mining

In a previous statement, Manda sought to clarify reports linking the attack on him to his fight against mining.

Manda said he was not against mining, but illegal mining.

A group of small-scale miners, allegedly funded by Ozamiz (1) igniz businessmen, recently applied for a declaration of their area of operations in Zamboanga del Sur as reserved for small-scale mining operations.

The provincial mining regulatory board, however, rejected the application, expressing fears of massive environmental destruction without regulation in the mining area.

Also, the area applied for is already covered by a Mineral Production Sharing Agreement (MPSA) issued to a Canadian mining firm, one of the biggest in the world. Current mining laws, and the latest executive order on mining issued by President Aquino, prohibit the issuance of mining permits in areas that are already covered by a MPSA. Julie S. Alipala, Inquirer Mindanao

WATER FUN
A man takes a shower from a fire truck that was emptying its water tank after it broke down in Labangon, a village in Cebu City, and had to siphon its load before it is hauled to the repairs.

NFA securing papers for Vietnam rice

LEGAZPI CITY—The National Food Authority (NFA) in Albay is now scrambling to secure all the needed documents that will authenticate the shipment of the 39.12 million Vietnamese rice impounded at the Legazpi port by the Bureau of Customs in Bicol.

Legazpi customs collector Lawyer Leonardo Bayona previously said he was compelled to issue a warrant of seizure and detention (WSD) on Tuesday for the 94,000 bags of Vietnam rice after the NFA failed to meet the deadline last Monday to submit the required documents.

Bayona said customs police have secured the imported rice cargo loaded in the Vietnamese vessel MV Minh Tuan 68, which arrived last Sept. 2. The ship was not allowed to dock and is now anchored about a kilometer away from the port.

Bayona said a copy of the WSD order was given to NFA Albay and also to the Multi Trans G.S.C., the shipping agent.

Nitsy Akasiana, NFA Bicol spokesperson, said her office received the WSD order Thursday and immediately transmitted it to the NFA central office.

Akasiana assures, NFA Albay manager, said the NFA central office sent documents signed by NFA head Lito Banayo.

The four farmers' cooperatives that are among the consignees of the Vietnam rice are legitimate groups. The head of the NFA in Tabaco said on Wednesday. Blas Arguelles, Inquirer Southern Luzon and Carmela Reyes-Buhayan, Inquirer Central Luzon

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Support for MVP as POC head snowballs

By June Navarro

PANGILINAN

A MINORITY block in the Philippine Olympic Committee apart from the Olympic body's present leadership is pushing for the takeover of the Most Valuable Pearl of Philippine sports.

A key representative of the group said 10 heads of national sports associations have an about votes and mapped out a strategy to encourage tycoon and sports patron Manny V. Pangilinan to throw his hat into the POC chairman ring (Nov. 30).

This NBA charter is also moving to ban athletes chief Go Teng Bok runs the fold along with the associations that enjoy the support of the MVP group.

Go, who helped POC president Jose Cojuangco Jr. seize control from it 2000, still remains influential in the national NGAs.

Pangilinan is president of the International Basketball ng Pilipinas and chair of both the Amateur Boxing Association of the Philippines and Philippine Badminton Association.

He is also a big supporter of taekwondo, cycling, tennis, running and football through his MVP Sports Foundation.

Cojuangco has reached out to Pangilinan and offered the latter either the chairmanship or presidency of the Olympic body. No one has stepped forward yet to challenge Cojuangco, who is running for a third straight term as POC chief.

"MVP is qualified to run as [POC president]," said the source who refused to reveal the 26 NGAs which are backing to field a challenger in Cojuangco. "Whoever runs against him will have a tough time."

Pacman-Marquez IV is it

A done deal, says top aide as Pacquiao leaves tonight

By Ray Luarca

PACQUIAO: Hosting to prove ex-Bradley.

MARQUEZ: Ballsiness to win all 3 fights.

THE MANNY Pacquiao-Juan Manuel Marquez fight saga continues.

Pacquiao will leave for Los Angeles tonight to sign the deal that sealed a pact the way for Pacquiao-Marquez IV on Dec. 8 at the MGM Grand hotel in Las Vegas.

"Manny has chosen Marquez. (to be his next foe)," lawyer Jong Gural, Pacquiao's chief of staff, confirmed yesterday in the wake of reports emanating from the Union Annex that the Mexican legend has already signed for the rematch bout.

Promoter Bob Arum told the AP Tuesday (Wednesday in Manila) that final negotiations with Pacquiao adviser Michael Koncz were scheduled on Wednesday (Thursday in Manila).

The same report stated that a press conference is scheduled in Los Angeles on Tuesday to formally announce the fight that will reward Pacquiao with more than $20 million, including pay-per-view share.

According to Gural, Pacquiao will be training with the cast of his "Manny Many Prizes" show on GMA 7 which will stage an episode in Los Angeles.

The only reverse decision world champion will then head to Las Vegas to sign the fight contract and attend the press conference formally announcing Pacquiao-Marquez IV on Tuesday.

This will be Pacquiao's first fight since absorbing a shocking, highly unpopular split decision loss in his defense of the World Boxing Organization welterweight crown to Timothy Bradley on June 9, also at the MGM Grand.

Though Arum talked as announcing that it's a done deal for Pacquiao-Marquez IV, he admitted that "it's certainly going to shut down now."

The 39-year-old Marquez, a four-division world champion noted for his crowd-pleasing skills, held his own against Pacquiao in their previous encounters.

In 2004, Marquez recovered from three first-round knockdowns to forge a controversial draw with Pacquiao.

Four years later, they fought again with Pacquiao riding out a disputed split decision, anchored mainly on a third-round knockdown of Marquez.

They waged another close battle in 2011 with the more aggressive Pacquiao gaining a majority decision.

Marquez has claimed that he won all three fights.

Though he has a rematch option with Bradley, Pacquiao decided to settle off the flamboyant American because of the lucrative PPV sales of their bout.

Team Pacquiao also felt that there's nothing more to prove in the world-wide perception—including the scoring by a five-judge panel created by the WBO to review the rips of the bout—clearly gave the fight to the fighting congressman.

Another prime candidate, Puerto Rican Miguel Cotto opted to take on Sa'id Bo'az, reg Amateurs light middleweight champion Austin Trout, instead on Dec. 1.

While chief rival Floyd Mayweather is remains an option for Pacquiao, that fight, if it pushes through, will have to wait until next year.

Sandugo, CV try to forge V-League title duel

By Jasmine W. Payo

SAN FERNANDO—San Sebastian and Cagayan Valley try to sweep their respective semifinal foes today and attempt a championship showdown in the Shakey's V-League Open at Emery Aquino Stadium.

The Lady Stags try to repeat over the Arroyo Lady Eagles at 4 p.m., while the Rising Suns battle the same team tied up at the Philippine Army Lady Troopers at 6 p.m. in Game 2 of the best-of-three series.

"We hope to win again but we have to keep our fears or try to raise the level of our game," said Cagayan coach Mike Ballad after his Rising Suns steamed Bo de-feating champion Lady Troopers in straight sets, 25-18, 25-21, 25-20, in Game 1 last Wednesday.

The Lady Stags also moved within a win of a finals stint after blasting the depleted Lady Eagles, 25-13, 25-20, 25-5, in the other pairing Wednesday night.

"We were expected to win," said Sandugo coach Roger Gonzaga after his Lady Stags overwhelmed an Arroyo side that played without several players, including key cogs Ella Catagbay and Gretchen Ho, due to school commitments.

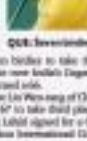
Jorg Bandoc-Ravel 18 points, while Ariane Thai-ani Ulanday-Kascaling and Nene Bautista teamed up for 21 for the top-seeded Lady Stags.

Thai standout Kascaling thereplayed also starred for the Rising Suns with 13 points, but the kindle led by Sandra delos Santos, Honey Tubino and Joy Cases also provided ample support.

"It would be nice to get into the finals," said Ballad after his Rising Suns dealt the Lady Troopers their first straight-set loss of the season.

The Lady Troopers, though, hope to recover from the shock loss behind Rachel Ann Daquis, Jacqueline Alinsa, Joanne Bunag, sisters Michelle and Mayeth Carolino and skipper Cristina Salak.

Que's sizzling 65 paces Yeangder TPC by 1 shot



QUE: Seven birdies

UBON—The Philippines' Angelo Que carded a flawless 7-under par 65 that catapulted him to the first-round lead at the $500,000 Yeangder Tournament Players Championship (TPC) on Thursday.

The three-time Asian Tour order winner birdied to take the lead by a single stroke over India's Digamber Dhallay, who attained 66th.

Controversial favorite Liu Wen-sang of Chinese Taipei posted a 67 to take third place while India's Jyoti Randhawa signed for a 68 for honors at the Khemara International Golf and Country Club.

Que, who is seeking to end a two-year drought, was all smiles after taking the lead with the best round of the morning. The 33-year-old said he always felt he would get ahead of himself each time he played well.

"Normally when I start well, I feel that I may find ways to mess it up coming in," said Que. "Somehow I trusted myself today and remained every shot, as well as content to shoot my plus-one, which is to keep the ball in play. I've managed to pull that off."

Nine of his companions also started well with teenage Lucrisha shooting a 70, Elmer Salvador and Miguel Tabuena sizzling 71s and Mars Pocay matching par 72. Jay Bayron carded a 73 while Artemio Murakami Inada 75.

Starting on the back nine, Que got off the blocks quickly with two birdies in his opening three holes.

He finished the 10th and 11th holes to reach the turn in 32. Que also birdied the ninth and fourth holes before his seventh birdie on the seventh hole gave him the outright lead.

"At one point, I didn't know (one) many under I was at and didn't really care about my scores," said Que. "I just concentrate to playing."

Meanwhile, Jovic Bagcasan shot a 73 and trailed by seven on the start of the ANA Open of the Japan Golf Tour in Hokkaido.

Asian Tour News

Lam ties Santos-Ocampo

DAVAO—Jhenen Ryan Lam came charging home on the final nine to shoot a 71-under-par 67 yesterday and tie Carl Santos-Ocampo for the lead after the second round of the ICTSI Rancho Palos Verdes Classic at the Mira Verdes layout here yesterday.

Lam, seeking to end a string of no-so-hidden in the circuit, hit three birdies on his last nine holes to match Santos-Ocampo, who salvaged a two-under 70 for a 138 total heading into the final round of the PC million event.

The co-leaders were just a stroke ahead of Jun Bacay, who finished the par-5 eighth for a 69. Three others, including first-round leader Ballino Reyeres, stood at 140, paving the way for a total scramble for the top P200,000 purse in the $1-leak tournament serving as the 12th leg of the ICTSI Philippine Golf Tour.

Reyeres, whose 67 put him one stroke clear of Santos-Ocampo, Zaide Boy Glaban and Miguel Orbos Arabescoby, struggled to a 73 and fell to the company of Randy Gonzales, who fired a 71, and Glaban, who fired a 72.

Santos-Ocampo remained upbeat of his chances for a breakthrough victory.

"I realized from past experiences that in golf, the more you try to control the situation, the more it slips away. Tomorrow, I will just be patient, hit fairways and greens and not force anything," said Santos-Ocampo, who blew a final-round lead and yielded the ICTSI Jobs Hau crown to Marvito Hernandez last April.

Lam, who had five runner-ups in the season, gunned down nine birdies against a bogey on his first nine holes on the back. He opened with a birdie on his homestand stpand for two more on hole 3 and 7.

Benjie Magalit, a former big salonist, shot a 69 for solo seventh at 141 while Orbos blew a solid 34 next with a 68 for a 71 and 142 total.

Arnold Villanueva shot a 68, Michael Bibat and Terrence Hermo carded 70s while Dante Reinerio made a 71 as they joined Orbos in eighth, even as Bernard Abadeo fired a 71 and rose to 12th at 143 in a tie with Richard Abusing and Ramil Rivera, who both shot 69s.

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Falk Ed.CTTINH (c) top gun Terrence Romeo (left) gets fooled by UP's Mike Silangan on the way to the basket. AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Eagles snare Bulldogs, near Final Four bonus

By Jasmine W. Payo

ATENEO'S Greg Slaughter and Nico Salva grasped up on fractured University in the second half, leading the Blue Eagles to a 70-56 rout of the Bulldogs and within a win of the twice-to-beat semifinal bonus in the UAAP men's basketball tournament yesterday at Philsports Arena.

Slaughter and Salva combined in a 12-2 fourth-quarter outburst that toward the Blue Eagles to their biggest advantage, 68-50, after a tight first half where the Bulldogs were content on top, 33-31, at the break.

"I'm pretty happy with the defensive effort," said coach Norman Black after his four-time champions star held NU star Ray Parks to a season-low 11 points.

Slaughter got away with many easy dunks from underneath as Salva with 22 points on top of seven rebounds and three blocks on the Blue Eagles also solidified their hold of the top spot with an 11-2 record.

Earlier, Roger Pogoy came out firing for the second straight game as the Eastern University upped University of the Philippines, 67-63, to grab a share of second at 9-3.

Pogoy, who shot a career-high 17 to his last outing, nailed all but one of seven attempts from the field to finish with 16 points.

"We were able to control the boards and score on fastbreaks," said coach Eric Flores after his Taimanens survived the Maroons' strong endgame challenge.

The Bulldogs fell from a share of fourth place with idle La Salle at 7-5.

The scores:

First Game

FEU (70) – Pogoy 16, Perez 12, Garcia 9, Mac Muyuan 7, Lucero 6, Ildefonso 6, Ahanmisi 4, Mendoza 2, Cruz 2, Delos Santos 0.

UP (63) – Slaughter 17, Salva 9, Canaleta 8, Mumbach 7, Ibañez 6, Manuel 5, Lores 4, Hadjirul 3, Gonzalez 2, Black 2, Ambayec 0, Romero 0, Zubia 0.

Quarters: 16-15, 33-31, 53-42, 70-63

Second Game

ATENEO (70) – Slaughter 23, Salva 22, Barroca 10, Tiongson 5, Mendoza 4, Buensalido 3, Torculas 2, Wong 2, Tolentino 0, Tratter 0.

NU (56) – Parks 11, Andrada 10, Tuano 9, De Guzman 7, Penonio 7, Balanza 6, Galinato 3, Villanueva 2, Bahio 0, Belgica 0.

Quarters: 19-17, 33-25, 50-44, 70-56

Gilas five opens Asia Cup campaign vs China today

By Mhaong B. Castillo

TOKYO—On paper, Smart Gilas Philippines will be clashing against the tournament's most feared five at the start of its Fiba-Asia Cup stint here Friday.

But Chot Reyes, who steered the team to a classic Asian Cup championship in Tokyo three weeks ago, still has no idea what kind of a Chinese team his gritty Philippines will be up against at the Ota Gymnasium in this Japanese capital.

GROUP A GAMES TODAY
(Ota Gymnasium)
11 AM
4 PM
6:30 p.m. (Live on TV5)
Philippines vs China
8 p.m. — Iran vs Jordan
Iran vs Lebanon (Live)

"We haven't the arrived around 2 in the morning, and yet we have our own dorm," Reyes said as he tries to prep his troops for the 6:30 p.m. contest Friday.

Consensus in the tournament website (not China, after a disappointing 12th place finish in the London Olympics, will be sending a young squad here after deciding to disband its A-Team.

Some comments reportedly made by officials of the China Basketball Association said the country is starting preparations for the 2016 Games in Rio de Janeiro, hence, it wouldn't be breaking in a group of under-22's here.

The Philippine side could go down as the most seasoned in the 10-country event.

Its displayed its capabilities in the Asian Cup after vanquishing a 7-1 record. All but one of those wins was close, with the 10-point cupping their title run with a 76-75 victory over the United States.

Reyes said the team will continue to use speed as its main weapon since teams like Lebanon, Japan, Iran and Chinese-Taipei will be playing here with bull muscles.

The Filipinos' only loss in the Asian Cup was close by the Lebanese, who were without the durable Bell El Khatib.

El-khatib, at 38, will be back for Lebanon as it tries to snatch a spot in the World Championship set to figure next year.

Lebanon, incidentally is headlined with the Philippines, China, Mexico and Uzbekistan in Group A, where the top two finishers after a single-round elimination will advance to the crossover semifinals with the qualifiers from Group B.

Iran, Chinese-Taipei, Qatar, India and Japan make up the other group.

Reyes failed to take a complete scrimmage here with Kelly Williams, Ryan Reyes and Jason Castro still out because of injuries.

NCAA: Altas overwhelm Chiefs

By Cedrik P. Tejon

FLASH BOX: a bad offensive game that had gone missing for the better part of the second stanza, Perpetual Help blasted Arellano U, 68-58, last night to boost its Final Four hopes in the men's 89th NCAA basketball tournament at Filoil Flying V Arena in San Juan.

A balanced onslaught led by Art Yu did propelled the Altas past the second-seeded Chiefs and to a ninth victory in 14 games, pushing them closer to their first postseason appearance since 2006.

"We're not thinking about the Final Four yet," said Perpetual Help coach Aric del Rosario. "We still need to win our next two games (against Mapua and Lyceum) before we can entertain thoughts about making the Final Four."

Something his strong play in the second round, Yidal finished with 24 points built on 10-of-22 shooting, to lead four other teammates in double figures as the Altas leaned their offensive rhythm in the second half to score their most lopsided win of the season.

All told, the Altas shot 35 percentage from the field and dished out 19 assists with small forward Mon Diamsiay accounting for nine. Diamsiay also secured up with 10 points, including 10 in the fourth period.

The Chiefs came into the game roaring later hopes of making the Final Four and a ninth loss put their meeting on the brink of elimination.

The Altas opened the second period with a 14-0 blast to establish control with Yidal and Sid Thompson on the firing end.

Thompson, playing with a spring in his step, had another solid outing with 14 points, eight rebounds and six assists...a performance that had Del Rosario competing him to his former University of Santo Tomas player and now PBA star, Dylan Ildefonso.

Arellano (58) – Yu 24, Alas 0, Dionisio 10, Tiongson 0, Aano 0, Talampas 2, Ilboy 0, Cantos 0, Yuson 2, Arrabaldo 0, Ramos 0.

Perpetual Help (68) – Yidal 24, Alas 0, Dionisio 10, Tiongson 0, Aano 0, Talampas 2, Ilboy 0, Cantos 0, Yuson 2, Arrabaldo 0, Ramos 0.

Quarters: 17-13, 31-33, 49-41, 58-68

Desperate times in PH sports

ONE GAME AT A TIME
Sev Sarmenta

WE MUST be really getting desperate.

Change is being clamored for as the Philippine Olympic Committee has three up-an-coming challengers to face in runners Jhan Jose "Peping" Colmenares Jr., a former congressman who's running for another term in November. The name of businessman Manuel V. Pangilinan has been bandied about as an alternative but it seems more probable that MVP may be satisfied as patron to the sports he has shown to help.

In his column yesterday, Butch Trinidad mentioned that it would be "heroic" for MVP to take up the cudgels for sports but it seemed that "they're trying to use him to patch up the tattered and scandalous POC image."

The MVP way of running companies and sports, where control freakmania negates impossibility to oversee sportsmen, may not work efficiently in the POC framework where national sports association heads may not necessarily be accustomed to a management by objectives culture. The world of sports is not exactly ambiguous or a business model.

The POC and even the PSC chairmanships are thankless jobs and often, those who feel that they can do some thing about sports are those who aspire or hang on to the positions. There is too much politicking to do and not enough money to support national elite athletes, national development programs and competitive participation in international sports events. At best, these jobs not even those at the national sports association levels are more honorary and passion-driven than career movement unlike regular professional employment in an organization.

Maybe that's why politicians are often drawn to head sports associations because of the alliances that have to be made. There are politics in manage like athletes, interested sports associations, media and the followers of a given sport. It takes a deft people person, a politician really, to connect to all of these. The businessman sports leader may not have the time or patience to juggle all these running jobs and will have to appoint a trusted executive director for the daily needs of an organization.

However, Filipinos don't like to deal with the lawmakers but with the top honcho himself.

Someone like money don't always solve the relationship problems or achieve the objectives of a sports association. Many businessmen who tried to help the sports they know grew up because they couldn't run the governing sports associations like their businesses. These were too many egos, passions or relationships to survive and not enough dedication to the sport with a team concept in mind.

Filipinos does that leave Philippine sports now with debacles piling up, upcoming international sports events and a world that is several steps ahead of us in training, nutrition, coaching and competition? Who can initiate change to at least start the ball rolling for better performances and achievements?

I can't think of any name. Now, I'm getting desperate.

Dottie rises to 2nd

DOTTIE Arellas marched par 72 and moved from seventh to joint second, still five shots off Lee Wei-hathaway through the Taiwan amateur Golf Championships in Yangmei on Taiwan.

Arellas published two bogeys with two birdies on the top Team ICTSI-Philippine Sea and Philippines Amateur Sky and Andy Tan and Angelo Miguel Rada recovered at 146.

Arellano's 72 was one of the two best scores of the day at the Hsinchu Golf and Country Club course with Lee carding a 71 for 141. Pan and Tan each made a 73 while Rada shot to a 76.

Cyna Rodriguez, winning off a playoff victory over Jayvee Aguja in last week's Hong Kong Open, shot the other 72 but stood eight off Lee at 149 in a tie with Princess Superal, who fired a 74.

Aguja, winner of the Asian Cup individual crown two weeks ago, shot another 75 for 150.

LGBA staglest kicks off at Pasay cockpit today

IN 9-0GS 10 in Isombart competing, the Luzon Carnacoil Breeders Association S.2.Bd.11-0-Bd.2 Derby Series holds its fourth leg today at Pasay City Cockpit.

The group's 2nd Time derbies unleashed the services of 120 fights per event, according to PCC pit managers Eric dela Rosa and Butchey Glero.

To accommodate the big number of qualifiers, the LGBA will hold another 5-stag event on Monday.

Pan Metro of Iloilo and Jerry Castro of Pampanga pace the 2012 leaders of the Tour race whose winner will be declared on Oct 1.

For derby inquiries, call 833-1880, 843-1146 and 810-6330 and look for Charrie or Jaime.

Alcantara starts PH Davis Cup bid vs Rungkat

By Marc Anthony Reyes

FRANCIS Casey Alcantara will open the country's Davis Cup bid against Indonesian top player Christopher Rungkat in the opening rubber of their Group 2 Zonal encounter today in Jakarta.

Treat Huey, who was listed as the Philippines No. 1 player despite not having a singles ranking, will take on Indonesian No. 2 Elbert Sie in the second singles.

The first match will start at 11 a.m. (Manila time) as Celimo Sang Kamweruwa watches.

Playing captain Jessie Barcelona and Ruben Gonzales were nominated to play in the doubles against the Southeast Asian Games doubles champs Rungkat and Sie tomorrow. Alcantara and Huey then switch opponents in Sunday's reverse singles.

HUEY Best chance to score

Players can be changed at least one hour before the match, said the Cebuano Orcullen Philippine Davis Cup team is expected to break its lineup depending on the outcome of the opening singles.

The Philippines can still tap Alcantara and Huey in the doubles considering that the 27-year-old FilAm from University of Virginia is currently ranked 390th in doubles.

"If you are playing an away game with a team as strong as Indonesia, it's very important to score in the first day and the draw that came out is the best chance we have to [do that]," said team manager Jessel Ivan Cruellas.

"This is the reason we put Alcantara in the first day so Treat can avoid Rungkat and score against Sie."

Alcantara, the 20-year-old lowest by his quickness and running, is not ranked in singles but has been the pivotal player for Fresno State, which finished in the top 16 of the US NCAA division I.

But he will have his hands full against the range 23-year-old Rungkat, who is ranked 202nd in the world and winner of three gold medals in last year's SEA Games.

Sie is ranked 862nd, which is still higher than anybody in the Philippine roster.

Philippine Tennis Association president, Atty. Edwin Alvarez said the draw favored the Philippines which will look on a young team against the Indonesians.

SBP Passerelle championships up

THE COUNTRY'S premier inter-school tournament for young basketball players, unfolds as the championship round of the MBP Passerelle gets underway on Sept. 16 at Blue Eagle Gym in Quezon City.

La Salle-Green Hills (LSGH) Team A, Ateneo Team A, Xavier Team A, and LSGH Team A headed their zone in the championship round after disposing of their rivals in eliminations in the semifinals.

In the semifinals, LSGH Team A clamped De La Salle-Zobel Team B, 58-35. Jadon Ad-Min Team A beat Stone Throne of Greater Manila 67-40.

In the Passerelle, Xavier A downed University of Santo Tomas, 83-75, while LSGH Team A romped by Chiang Kai Shek, 69-62.

XAVIER leads University of Santo Tomas in the way to the finals

UST and LSGH dispute third place honors in the Passerelle finalists at 8 a.m., while OLGA and Notre Dame-Nazareth at 9:15 a.m. in a battle for third place in the MBP division. Championship action then begins at 10:30 a.m. as Xavier Team A and LSGH Team A clash to see for the Passerelle title while LS-GH Team B and Ateneo Team A either clear or school rivalry for the MBP title.

Philta Negros tourney kicks off

By Marc Anthony Reyes

STEPHEN Ramos leads a field of former winners when the third leg of the Philta Dickerson Bearishop regional age group tennis championships presented by Dinoba tech off today at La Cordista Tennis Club in Negros Occidental.

Ramos, who won two titles during last week's second leg at Cosmo Court Tennis Club in Bacolod City will become a promising bunch of players that includ Andrea Gemma Pierra, Godfrey Gene and Kristo Saldivadgan of Cebu, Raul Barian and Toni Rose Pizarrondo of La Carlota, Cosme Fernando of Bacolod and Jean Elvira Ramos of Iloilo.

The 15-stage meeting aimed at discovering fresh talents from across the country is sponsored by Palmson Pharmacy, although chief operating officer Bobby Cantre and Technoposium through president Guillermo Nocum.

There will be competitions in 10 under one set, and boys and girls 11-, 14-, 16- and 18-under classes.

Cebu City will host the circuit's next two legs, according to Philippine Tennis Association regional vice president Bong Arguelles. No details call, 0920-8496981 or e-mail bobbyarguelles@yahoo.com.

Cudala captures AKOC Yamaha Novice Cup title

RAYMOND Brian Cudala and brothers Jerome and Mike Steven led Pero-C Racing's campaign to the third leg of the 2012 Asian Racing Open Championships held recently at Clarkview Racetrack in Cavite.

The 13-year-old Cudala, coming off a fourth place finish in the Pro Finals, hoisted all Expert division in the Finals of the event, timed 14:45 to capture the Yamaha Cup Novice crown. Pero-C Racing's lone AKOC championship trophy.

The Rizona siblings, both first Roman Makati high school students, wound up runners-up in the Formula 125 Open Junior.

Young ace Dylan Arendoño was also a runner-up in the Formula Cadet Expert class and finished third in his debut in the local Mini-BOR division.

Matthew Chan, meanwhile, came back from 11th place to wind up seventh overall, outraging Indonesia's Andreyan Mario and Singapore's Abdul Razak Rashid Bin Yasir in the premium formula 125 Open Senior.

Esteban appeared headed for a back-to-back crown in the Formula 125 Open Junior as he controlled the tempo during the first half of the Final race, but Japanese Shintaro Ono caught up with him on the 11th lap and never looked back. Steve Silvo, Contributor

SMC squads grace Scoop forum today

THE PBA and the the boys of today's Scoop na Kamayan weekly forum, with the three teams under the San Miguel Corp. umbrella gracing the session at Kamayan Restaurant, Pedro Gil.

Hubert Ng, chief of basketball operations of the food and beverage conglomerate extremely appreciative of the pro league, will talk about what to expect when the coming season starts on Sept. 30 at Smart Araneta Coliseum.

Also gracing the forum, sponsored by Powerade, MOY and Mx on Sunday Coffee, board representative Pete Fortuno, team manager Alvin Patrimonio, new Petron head coach Chito Narvasa and Ginebra rookie Stanley Pringle.

Pumbo, Patrimonio, Narvasa and Tanguincon will talk about the changes made in their respective lineups in preparation for the coming season.

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Editor Joseph Voltaire L. Contreras

DID YOU KNOW

THE QUEZON City Police District posted the highest number of index crimes or crimes against persons and property (murder, homicide, physical injury, rape, robbery and theft) among the police districts under the National Capital Region Police Office in September 2011. It accounted for 1,039 cases during the period or about 27 percent of the total recorded 3,808 incidents in Metro Manila in the same period last year. Jhaleh Escudero, Inquirer Research

'Air battle' on over bird sanctuary

By Jerome Aning and Christine O. Avendaño

METRO Manila's airspace is apparently getting too narrow for birds real and mechanical.

The week-ave renewed clashes between the managers of the country's main airport and defenders of a wildlife bird sanctuary which aviation officials have been blaming for a number of possible dangerous aircraft bird strikes.

The Manila International Airport Authority, state operator of Ninoy Aquino International Airport, yesterday reiterated calls for the removal of the avian known off the coast of Las Piñas and Parañaque cities.

The MIAA's safety division said it recorded at least 39 bird strikes during the first seven months of the year, 30 percent higher than last year's figures.

The bird strikes were reported from January to July by various carriers such as Philippine Airlines (PAL), Cebu Pacific, Zest Air, Cathay Pacific, Air Asia, the Philippines Express and Qatar Airways, it said.

One of the latest incidents involved PAL flight PR 305 arriving from Guam on July 24, which reportedly ran into a flock of birds.

MIAA'S FACE 6A

DEPARTURE CALL! Aviation officials don't want these egrets and other seasonal visitors in the Las Piñas-Parañaque bird haven to strike flight paths with their planes. NIÑO JESUS ORBETA

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Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
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Website: http://www.denr.gov.ph • E-mail: web@denr.gov.ph

DENR Memorandum Order No. 2012 - 07

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
No. 2012 - 07

SUBJECT: RULES AND REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 79 DATED 30 JULY 2012 ENTITLED: INSTITUTIONALIZING AND IMPLEMENTING REFORMS IN THE PHILIPPINE MINING SECTOR PROVIDING POLICIES AND GUIDELINES TO ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND RESPONSIBLE MINING IN THE UTILIZATION OF MINERAL RESOURCES

Pursuant to Section 19 of Executive Order (EO) No. 79 dated 30 July 2012, entitled **Institutionalizing and Implementing Reforms in the Philippine Mining Sector Providing Policies and Guidelines to Ensure Environmental Protection and Responsible Mining in the Utilization of Mineral Resources**, the following rules and regulations are hereby promulgated for the guidance and compliance of all concerned:

Section 1. Title

The title of this Administrative Order shall be "The Implementing Rules and Regulations of Executive Order No. 79".

Section 2. Objectives

These implementing rules and regulations are promulgated toward the attainment of the following socio-political objectives adopted by the Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation and Economic Development Cabinet Cluster in a Joint Resolution dated 14 March 2012, which sets the direction and maps the foundation for the implementation of Responsible Mining Policies:

a. Ensure mining's contribution to the country's sustainable development (i.e. economic and social growth and environmental protection);

b. Adopt international best practices and promote good governance and integrity in the sector;

c. Ensure the protection of the environment by adopting the industry and practically sound and generally accepted methods as well as indigenous best practices;

d. Ensure the consistency of local ordinances with the Constitution and national laws;

e. Ensure a fair, adequate and equitable shared of revenues benefit for the country and the host communities; and

f. Ensure effective and effective management of the mining sector.

Section 3. Definition of Terms

As used in and for purposes of these implementing rules and regulations, the following terms are defined accordingly:

a. "Abandoned mine" refers to mine links were abandoned during their transport in accordance with the Philippine Mining Act of 1995 (Republic Act No. 7942) (hereinafter, the Act) and Section 47 hereof or were illegally operated;

b. "Environmental management record" refers to a mining applicant's consistency with environmental standards at its past personnel over-ventures and their financial technical and financial capability must call the requirements to undertake requisite protection, restoration and/or rehabilitation of disputed areas and similar activities: Provided, that this shall not be required in cases where the mining applicant has no previous experience in resource-use activities, locally or internationally;

c. "Fish refuge and sanctuaries" refer to areas designated by the Department of Agriculture (DA) wherein fishing or other forms of activities that may damage the ecosystem of the area is prohibited and human presence may be restricted;

d. "Impact zone or mining" refers to areas situated in the vicinity of a mining area, as determined by current and reasonably imaging technologies in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), where significant direct and indirect negative impacts have socially offered as consequences on the physical, biological and socio-economic environment, which can be listed as indirect, cumulative and primary or negative, and which the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) may broadly identify as areas for mining pursuant to existing laws, and rules and regulations;

e. "Island ecosystems" refer to terrestrial, inland water and coastal marine environments in an island's (island ecosystem) a unique but fragile and vulnerable associations where communities of living organisms (plants, animals and microbes) in conjunction with the nonliving components of their environment are interacting as a system;

f. "Mineral/Mining concessions" refer to mining agreements, permits and/or contracts;

g. "National Government-Owned Mining Assets" refer to mining areas, mining equipment and/or mining products previously held by operators, including, but not limited to Philippine Mining Corporation (PHILMICO) Mining Corporation, Metallurgical Mining and Industrial Corporation, Nonoc Mining and Industrial Corporation, and Hinatuan Mining Corporation, which are now under the management of the government financial institutions, and/or government assets or committed corporations by the Asset Privatization Trust/Privatization and Management Office;

h. "Mineral or Protected Areas for agricultural and Agro-Industrial Development (MPAADC)" refers to agricultural areas identified by the DA through the Bureau of Soils and Water Management in coordination with the National Mapping and Resource Information Authority identified, in order to ensure the efficient utilization of the country's land resources for agricultural development and promote sustainable growth: That MPAADC covers all irrigated areas, all irrigable areas already surveyed by irrigators projects with firm funding commitments, all alluvial plain lands highly suitable for agriculture whether irrigated or not agricultural wastelands or lands presently utilized by subsistence but feel supports the majority of existing agricultural activities, and all remaining contiguous, highlands, or lands bounded on an elevation of five hundred (500) meters or above and have the potential for growing deep rooted perennials and high-value crops, all agricultural lands that are ecologically fragile, the conversion of which will result in serious environmental degradation and ecological imbalance and their catchments;

i. "Other critical areas" refer to areas declared as permanent refuges zones by the Wildlife and Environmental Society (WES), Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS) and other relevant agencies as defined as critical habitats by RA No. 9147 or the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act;

j. "Prime agricultural lands" refer to lands that can be used for intensive or specific agricultural activities and can provide sustained and sustainable yield and a minimum of inputs and development cost as determined by the DA. These are included in the MPAADC and the Strategic Agriculture and Fisheries Development Zones) and lands covered by the NIA's the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law of 1988, as amended;

k. "Protected areas" refer to areas categorized and established by law or by Presidential proclamation under the Sec. 5(96) or the National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Act;

l. "Social acceptability" refers to the generability of a project by affected communities based on timely and informed participation in a consultation process, particularly with regard to environmental impacts that are of concern to them. It is not a simple "yes" or "no" vote where the majority wins. It involves addressing valid concerns through a series of dialogues, information and negotiations among stakeholders especially with the people living in surrounding communities;

m. "Strategic Agriculture and Fisheries Development Zones (SAFDZs)" refer to the areas within the MPAADC identified under RA No. 8435, the Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act of 1997, for production, agro-processing and marketing activities to help develop and modernize, with the support of Government, the agriculture and fisheries sectors in an environmentally and socio-culturally sound manner;

n. "Strategic minerals" refer to minerals essential to national economic development which are required to supply the industrial needs of the country, including, but not limited to, base metals (iron, nickel, lead, zinc and copper), or other minerals as may be declared by the President. This also includes other such minerals or mineral products made from mineral-based or emerging technologies that contribute to environmental, energy efficiency and health solutions; and

o. "Tourism Development Area" refers to specific tourism sites within an area, including its attendant landscapes, identified in national and local tourism development plans, as well as those designated through legislative and executive measures or as determined the Tourism Enterprise Zones, tourism complexes, integrated resorts, leisure and recreation centers, and other tourism-related facilities and activities.

All other terms not herein mentioning also such regulations shall have their meaning as defined in P. D. No. 1067, the Philippine Mining Act of 1995, and the implementing Rules and Regulations.

Section 4. Areas Closed to Mining Applications

Applications for mineral contracts, concessions and agreements shall not be allowed in the following:

a. Areas expressly enumerated under Section 19 of RA No. 7942 and Section 10 of DENR Administrative Order (DAO) No. 2010-21, or the Implementing Rules and Regulations of RA No. 7942, as may be amended hereafter;

b. Protected areas designated and established under the NIPAS under RA No. 7586;

c. Prime agricultural lands, in addition to lands covered by RA No. 6657 or the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law of 1988, as amended, including plantations and areas devoted to valuable crops, and MPAAD and their critical and watersheds declared as such by the Secretary of the DA;

d. Tourism development areas, as identified in the national and local tourism development plans; and

e. Other critical areas, inland waterbodies, and tribal areas of mining as determined by current and existing assessment technologies and the DENR may consolidate identify pursuant to existing laws, rules, and regulations, such as, but not limited to, the NIPAS Act.

The agencies concerned shall submit to the Mines Bureau (MB) on or before 31 March 2013 a listing of the Mining Industry Coordinating Council (MICC) as of July 31, 2012, the final and the corresponding maps with technical descriptions of the areas closed to mining by reasons of the integrated map in accordance with Section 19 hereof.

Mining contracts, agreements and concessions approved before the effectivity of this EO shall continue to be valid, binding and enforceable: Provided, that they strictly comply with existing laws, and rules and regulations and the terms and conditions of the grant thereof. The DENR, in coordination with other regulatory and non-regulatory government units concerned, shall conduct periodic reviews and monitoring of compliance of each mining contractor/agreement concessionaire. The findings and recommendations shall be submitted within six (6) months from the effectivity of the EO, with subsequent reviews conducted every two (2) years thereafter.

All pending mining applications situated within any of the above areas closed to mining shall be deemed denied upon the effectivity of this EO.

Section 5. Full Enforcement of Environmental Standards in Mining.

The Government in general and the DENR in particular, in coordination with Local Government Units (LGUs) concerned, shall ensure that environmental standards in mining, as prescribed by the Philippine Environmental Impact System, and rules and regulations, shall be fully and faithfully enforced, and appropriate sanctions meted out against violators thereof.

When any mining operations violate the provisions of the RA No. 7942 and/or its implementing Rules and Regulations, the EIS and the Environmental Compliance and Mitigation Plan (ECMP) applications, the MGB Central/Regional Director shall require the mining contractor/operator/permit holder/operation concessor to undertake the necessary remediation measures for the affected areas, including any communities involved, and shall commensurately issue pertinent suspension orders until the danger is removed.

On the other hand, the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) Director/Regional Director shall issue Notice of Violations and Cease and Desist Orders, absent review from and coordination with the MGB Director/Regional Director, against any company found to violate the Philippine Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) under the provisions of Presidential Decree (PD) No. 1586, Draft for DAO 03 and other environmental laws.

Mining rights shall be granted only to those who are able to strictly comply with the environmental management and impact assessment, among other environment requirements pursuant to the applicable provisions of RA No. 7942, the EO and the Presidential Directives, and other applicable laws and regulations. Thus, an mining applicants, including the individual natural citizens of Filipino citizen, with financial or environmental constraints, where the declared mineral reserves are not sufficient to justify large-scale mining operations and regulations, such as may be implemented by them, soon as, but not limited to, quarrying, tailings, sand and subsistence mining operation, shall be permanently disqualified from acquiring mining rights and operating mining projects. The denial shall be required in cases where the mining applicant has no previous experience in resource-use activities, locally or internationally.

Section 6. Review of the Performance of Existing Mining Operations and Clustering of Non-Mining Mining Rights Holders

To ensure compliance with environmental standards, laws, rules and regulations, and to rationalize the management and utilization of mineral-based sustainable development, a multi-stakeholder team led by the DENR shall be created to conduct review of the performance of existing mining operations. The review to be undertaken within six (6) months from the effectivity of this EO and every two (2) years thereafter.

The said review shall be based on guidelines and parameters set forth in the specific mining contracts, agreements and concessions, and other pertinent or applicable laws, rules and regulations, such as the Philippine Mining Act of 1995 and the Labor Code. The review shall include assessments of performance, compliance with other terms and conditions of the mining contract/agreement, and field validation, among others.

Appropriate action shall be immediately taken by the Government against any person convicted against persons violations based on the findings and recommendations of the review.

The reopening of non-mining mining rights holders shall be undertaken in accordance with DENR Administrative Order No. 23 (DAO).

Section 7. Grant of Mineral Agreements Pending New Legislation

No new mineral agreements shall be entered into until a legislation rationalizing existing revenue sharing schemes and mechanisms shall have taken effect: Provided, that any suspension of existing contract/ process shall not prevent the maximum exchange rate provisions of existing laws, rules and regulations, and shall be given the right of first option in meeting said offered the Government in their respective exploration areas, upon the approval of the declaration of mining project feasibility and the effectivity of said legislation. Holders of EP's must purchase their mineral products from the Government at the prevailing market rate and the terms and conditions of the MR. Otherwise, they automatically lose their priority right over the said areas and the Government can bid the same pursuant to Section 9 hereof.

Two mentioned technical and/or cases in developing areas in the meantime, EP applications as provided for in Section 10 of the Philippine Mining Act of 1995. In case where a Declaration has been issued by a EP application is situated within an area closed to mining application, then said Declaration shall be removed from the coverage of this said application.

An EP application shall be approved in designated order and (5) months from the date of its amendment by the MGB on condition that all pertinent requirements are duly complied with. For this purpose, the following essential deadlines are set for the various agencies concerned:

a. DENR Sector concerned, for the issuance of Area Status and Clearance – within one (1) month from date of filing the application;

b. National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), for the issuance of a Certificate of Non-Overlap – within three (3) months

c. Local Government Unit (LGU) concerned, for the issuance of certification of consistency of the Area of Application – within one (1) week from the last day of completion of publishing;

d. LGU concerned, for the issuance of certification as to any adverse claim or opposition – within one (1) week from the date of filing the request.

Provided, that the above requirements shall not be deemed waived if the applicable requirement are not duly or issue them within the prescribed deadline.

This DENR shall likewise undertake a review of existing mining contracts and agreements for compliance of the terms and conditions of the same without delay. If all cases, be formally accepted to the Government and the mining contractor.

Section 8. Establishment of Mineral Reservations

Potentials and future mining areas with known strategic mineral reserves and resources shall be declared as Mineral Reservations for the development of strategic industries identified in the Philippine Development Plan and a National Industrialization Plan, pursuant to the pertinent provisions of RA No. 7942, after proper consultation with all concerned communities and, but not limited to, representatives of affected communities, LGUs, the business sector, and non-governmental and civil society organizations.

For the above purpose, the MGB shall indicatively mineral exploration, and research and development program for the determination of mineral resources and reserves of the mine vicinity in accordance with LGU concerned, local communities and Indigenous Peoples.

This shall be without prejudice to the agreements, contracts, rights and obligations previously entered into by and between the government and existing concessionaires.

Section 9. Opening of Areas for Mining through Competitive Public Bidding

The grant of mining rights and mining agreements over areas with known and verified mineral resources and reserves, including those owned by the Government and developed mining agreements, shall be undertaken through competitive public bidding: Provided, that in the case of negotiated mining agreements, the proponent, if qualified, may also participate in the bidding process: Provided, further, that in the case of bidding 25-mine mining tenements, the qualified mining investment holder electing to exercise its right to renew the said mining agreement for another 25-year term shall be the preferred mining applicants in the MGB, not later than six (6) months prior to the expiration of the said mining agreement. The mining contract/agreement that may be renewed shall be subject to new terms and conditions pursuant to the laws, and rules and regulations that are existing at the time of renewal, or may be thereafter issued, such as, but not limited to, the establishment of the minimum rates as enhanced Royalties.

The MGB shall prepare the necessary competitive bid packages and formulate the proper guidelines and procedures or contract for the same, which shall include ensuring that the social responsibility of the proponent tender has been declared. The competitive bid packages shall contain, but not limited to, information such as technical descriptions, geological mineral commodities, physicochemical and grade of indeterminations, assay results, feasibility study, and details of mine pre-operations, among others.

All other mining applications shall be processed and approved through existing procedures.

Section 10. Disposition of Abandoned Ores and Valuable Metals in Mine Wastes and Mill Tailings

All disposed of ores, and valuable metals or mine wastes and/or mill tailings generated by previous and new defunct mining operations, except those that have been awarded with finality by the court, belong to the State. These shall include those that have been declared during their transport or shipment and are not covered by valid and existing Ore Transport Permit, Mineral Ore Export Permit or Delivery Receipt. These shall be developed and utilized through competitive public bidding in accordance with the pertinent provisions of law: Provided, that such abandoned mine and valuable metals in mine wastes and/or mill tailings are not intended to any pending or decided cases in court.

In the case of existing mining operations, all valuable metals in mine wastes and/or mill tailings shall automatically belong to the State upon the expiration of the pertinent mining contracts and shall be disposed of in accordance with the provisions of RA No. 7942, provided that where two or more mine sites, covered by their respective mining contracts, share a single tailings pond, both or all mining contractor must report before the State can claim ownership over the said tailing pond.

The State's assumption of responsibility over the abandoned mine facilities relating to mine wastes and mill tailings shall be without prejudice to any liability liabilities that may be found against mining contractors for any harm or damage caused by said abandoned mine facilities. Mine wastes and mill tailings shall be the responsibility of responsibility in accordance with existing laws, and rules, regulations and the terms of the grant of the mining rights.

Section 11. Value-Adding Activities and the Development of Downstream Industries for the Mineral Sector

A multistakeholder committee shall be created, within a period of six (6) months a national program and roadmap, based on the Philippine Development Plan and a National Industrialization Plan, for the development of value-adding activities, and downstream industries for strategic metallic ores. The shall be submitted to the MICC for review and endorsement to the President.

The multistakeholder committee shall be composed of the following officials or their duly authorized representative(s):

a. Secretary of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) as Chair;

b. Secretary of the DENR as Member;

c. Secretary of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) as Member;

d. Secretary of the Department of Energy (DOE) as Member;

e. Director General of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) as Member; and

f. President of the Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines (ULAP) as Member.

Other members of the committee shall include representatives from the business, civil society, and academia. The committee can invite other stakeholders as necessary.

The Board of Investments shall serve as the Secretariat of the Committee.

Section 12. Constituting the Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation and Economic Development Cabinet Clusters as the Mining Industry Coordinating Council

The Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation and Economic Development Cabinet Clusters, and constituted themselves into an interagency forum to be known as the Mining Industry Coordinating Council (MICC).

The MICC shall be co-chaired by the Chairpersons of the two (2) clusters and shall have the following additional members: Secretary, Department of Justice (DOJ), Chairperson, NCIP, and President, ULAP.

The MICC shall provide the technical support to the MICC.

Section 13. Powers and Functions of the Council

The Council shall have the following powers and functions:

a. Submit a work plan for the implementation of this EO and other reforms related to the mining industry within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this EO;

b. Ensure coordinating, dialogue and consultations among all stakeholders in the industry;

c. Conduct and facilitate the necessary capacity and institutional building programs for all governments agencies and instrumentalities concerned;

d. Conduct an assessment and review of all mining-related laws, rules and regulations, issuances, and agreements with the view to formulating recommendations for the rationalization of the mining industry and to ensure that the government would be mining sector coordinated between the National Government and LGUs to ensure implementation of mining laws and regulations, and to properly regulate small-scale mining contemplated and ensure that they are accountable to the same environmental and social obligations as large-scale mining companies;

e. As may be directed by the President, establish and create a Task Force Against Illegal Mining and assist the operations of all law enforcement agencies, such as, but not limited to the Philippine National Police, and the Armed Forces of the Philippines in accordance with the pertinent laws, rules and regulations;

f. Serve as the Oversight Committee over the operations of Provincial City Mining Regulatory Boards (PCMRBs);

g. Request the assistance of any government agency or instrumentality, including government-owned and controlled corporations and LGUs, in the implementation of this EO;

h. Submit periodic reports to the President on the status of the implementation of the EO; and

More pols feel anti-'epal' pinch

By GHC Calasaguan and Tina D. Santos

AT LEAST two more Quezon City politicians appear to be reeling in the prevailing distaste against so-called 'epal' politicians by having their ubiquitous signs and streamers taken down.

Rep. Winston "Winnie" Castelo of the city's second district joined those who said he had ordered his staff to tear down all of his posters.

"We have started to remove them all," Castelo said, adding that he would also convince his relatives in politics, like Councilor Annie Dura, to follow suit.

But he pointed out that "we have always limited our information drive to letting the public know the services they could derive from my office the hospital assistance, medicine subsidy, scholarship and free food processing."

Councilor Ejercito-Estrada Schwartz Jr. said his nephew, Quezon City Councilor Vincent Belmonte, had also started removing his posters in response to the anti-'epal' campaign.

"He was not just as quick as the others in taking down his posters, inspiration which convinced me in-district," the House leader said in a text message.

Quezon City Mayor Herbert Bautista on Wednesday ordered the removal of all billboards, streamers and signs bearing the faces and names of city officials.

This was after City Hall also ordered workmen to start painting over the decorative "FH" tiles on sidewalks bearing Bautista's initials.

Those stories were welcome relief for the civic and online movement assailing politicians who are prematurely promoting themselves for next year's elections by taking credit for state-funded projects or using birthdays or major events as an excuse to put up signs bearing their names and photos.

Last week, Malabon City ordered allies of President Aquino Undersigning Lando to remove a member of the Liberal Party's board his divisive against self-promotion as part of his advocacy for good governance.

According to election lawyer Bartolo Macalintal, the Commission on Elections (Comelec) may not have the power against such politicians but the public may hold them accountable by punishing for their disqualification.

In a statement Thursday, Macalintal said the posting of political materials disguised as banners or posters may be used as a basis in filing a complaint by "any concerned citizen who interprets that the posting of the said propaganda is annoyed or vexed by such appearance by prominent campaigning."

"For sure, there is enough time from now until May 2013 to file such criminal cases against those persons and disqualify them from having a candidacy," the lawyer said.

METROBRIEFS

Canteen owner killed after confirming identity

AN ELDERLY canteen owner was shot dead by a man who was confirmed if the former was indeed the target before he killed him on Wednesday night in Quezon City, police said. Quezon City police said Rolando Bautista, 62, was declared dead on arrival at Fairview General Hospital. Case investigator SPO1 Jaime Jimenez said the victim's daughter, Arlene, who was interviewed earlier she saw Mr by a gray sedan, told investigators that she and her father were at work in their canteen at Fairview Road, Barangay Bahay Toro, when a man came in and confirmed if the victim was indeed Bautista before he shot him at point blank. "Who is Lorenzo?" When the victim replied that he was Lorenzo, the man shot him several times. **Julie M. Aurelio**

Beware of 'batcha' with start of 'Ber' months

EXPECT an influx of batcha street taken from long-dead animals with the start of the "Ber" months leading up to Christmastime, inspectors warned. Batcha is that unaccountable bear trackers would take advantage of this time, based on the theory of their smaller of their animals are prepared from meat. "Because more people will buy meat and parties [those being sold at low prices, these traders [may] resort to using artificial," said Christian Esperon, meat inspector of the Manila Special Meat Squad (SMS). At dawn yesterday, the SMS confiscated 81 kilos of batcha in a trap of 200 kilos of mislabeled imported frozen meat at Divas Market, the third time it made such a seizure at a market in Manila since last month. The operation was conducted based on information that a certain Baker was selling batcha in the area. However, the people manning the stall where the meat was being sold managed to escape during the raid. **Erika Sauler**

'Air battle' on . . . Front page A20

while landing. The aircraft's tire blades were damaged and had to be replaced as a result.

PAL reported a total of 208 bird strikes on its aircraft since 2006, some of which were fatal.

"Whatever precautions we take will be sent to nowhere because this bird sanctuary is almost in our door," MIAA General Manager Jose Angel Honrado said. "Why should we scan for something bad to happen before we do something about it?"

However, the Save Freedom Island Movement said MIAA's concerns were exaggerated and linked to the business interests behind a multibillion-peso reclamation project on Manila Bay.

"The birds' supposed threats to the planes are being used to justify the reclamation of the coast, which will cause flooding and disastrous fighting communities," SFIM spokesperson Cincy Mercado told the Inquirer.

"The birds have been going to that coastal area even before Sean was built. Even if the bird sanctuary is removed and the area reclaimed, we can rest the birds will no longer go there?" Mercado said.

The SFIM was one of the groups that had petitioned the Supreme Court for a writ of kalikasan temporarily stopping the reclamation.

In a hearing at the Court of Appeals on Wednesday, the Office of the Solicitor General, the Philippine Ports Authority and the Manila Bay Reclamation Authority argued that the petitioners had failed to show that the reclamation project would cause irreparable damage to the environment.

The agencies also said the petitioners had failed to show that the project would violate the Clean Water Act, the Philippine Environment Code and other laws.

But lawyer Antonio Oposa Jr., counsel for the petitioners, said the agencies failed to show that the project would not cause irreparable damage to the environment.

Oposa said the agencies also failed to show that the project would not violate the Clean Water Act, the Philippine Environment Code and other laws.

The Supreme Court is expected to rule on the petition in the next few weeks.

Couple who abused maid end up behind bars

By Julie M. Aurelio and Jeannette I. Andrade

TWO COUPLE accused of locking up their maid and subjecting her to abuse for years until she went blind ended up behind bars yesterday—although in different facilities...despite a last-ditch appeal by their lawyer for what the prosecutor described as "special treatment."

At 2 p.m. yesterday, Analiza and Reynold Herrera were brought by officers of the Inter-Agency Council on Violence Against Women and Their Children (IACAT) to the Quezon City Jail female dormitory in Camp Karingal, Barangay Bihal after 5:00pm.

While the two were arraigned before Quezon City Regional Trial Court Branch 77, Judge Georgina Hyson ordered the couple detained without bail for allegedly violating Republic Act 9262, or the Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children Act of 2004.

After almost an hour, he emerged alone and was taken by his escorts to the city jail male dormitory in Kamuning where he was met by Insp. Jose Rodam of the records section for booking.

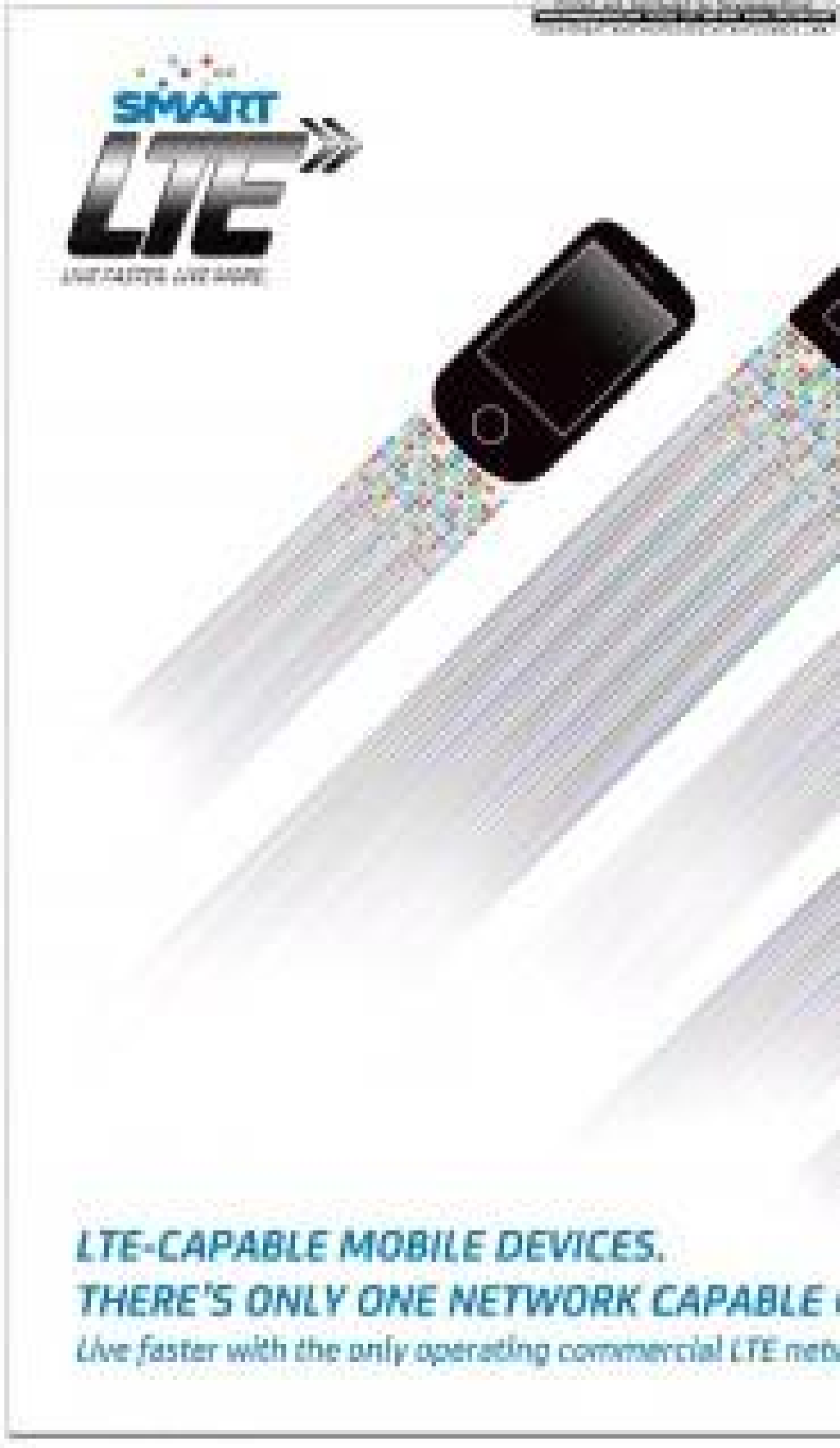
City jail warden Supt. Jose Vela said Reynold would undergo a medical examination before he is assigned to a cell.

But even before the couple showed up at the landing site before noon, lawyer Jose Flaminiano had appeared with a battery of lawyers and filed a motion asking for the case to be dismissed.

Flaminiano argued that the case should be dismissed because the couple's alleged victim, Analiza, had already withdrawn her complaint against them.

Flaminiano also argued that

SMART LTE



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Only 2 days into job, Somali president survives attacks

MOGADISHU—Islamist suicide bombers attacked the hotel where Somalia's president was giving a news conference on Wednesday, killing eight people and sending reporters diving for cover.

President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud—just two days into his job—and the visiting Kenyan foreign minister were neither the intended target of the bombers at Mogadishu's Muna Hotel.

The first explosion struck shortly after 2 p.m. (1100 GMT) as Kenya's Sam Ongeri started to speak. "Many of journalists rushed in front and I saw a huge journalists climbed behind pillars, under our chairs—and I ran," he said.

Mohamud, who had been staying at the hotel since being elected on Monday, was unhurt and Ongeri continued his speech, saying: "I believe this is the price of peace." Several said a half-minute later, a second explosion erupted.

The attacks—on the heavily fortified Jazeera Palace hotel, near the airport and one of the busiest places in Mogadishu—underscore the security challenges facing Mohamud, whose election was hailed by many as a way to end 20 years of violent anarchy. "He were behind the Mogadishu hotel blasts. It was a well planned [inaudible] operation," Sheikh Mukhtar Abdi Hirash, a spokesman for al-Shabaab's military operations, told Reuters.

A journalist accompanying Ongeri said she had seen "pieces of meat flying all over the place" after the first blast.

"There I saw a severed guy shooting as he squirted towards the West," said Jamila Mohamoud, who was outside the hotel when the second struck.

A Reuters witness said the severed leg of one of the suicide bombers was in pieces while another could be seen just outside the hotel's gate where African Union (AU) armored vehicles were patrolling. At least one of which was splattered with blood.

A severed head lay in a large crater in the road dozens of meters (yards) away from the hotel, reliable residents the Indian Ocean.

Mohamud's election by Somali lawmakers on Monday was hailed by his supporters as a win for change in the war-ridden Horn of Africa country that has lacked effective central government since 1991.

MOHAMUD

Although he is relatively new to politics, the former academic faces old problems: a stubborn Islamist insurgency, authoritarian clan politics, rampant corruption and mass starvation.

"First and foremost we will address the security issue here in Somalia... Our priority number one, not priority number two, not priority number three and priority number four is security," Mohamud said moments after the blasts echoed in the audience.

The AU Peacekeeping force African Union Mission in Somalia (Amisom) said a fixed attacker was also dead as he attempted to scale the hotel's outer wall.

His body was lying in a pool of blood where three AU vehicles were parked just outside the hotel.

"Mukhtar are very well organized. Look at their timing.

"Three people, they are motorbikes," said Mohamed Dilaar, a foreign ministry official, arriving in the lobby after the attack.

"When the hope and aspirations come, that's the time they wanted to destroy hope. You don't relax just because some people voted for a position, it doesn't mean everything is better."

Al-Shabaab, which has links to al-Qaeda, said the explosions had killed four members of its security forces. A Somali ambulance service worker said they had picked up the bodies of five government soldiers and two civilians.

"I could also see three dead African Union soldiers," the ambulance worker said. Sixteen soldiers were killed and three were others wounded.

The airport—considered is a major base for African Union peacekeepers and the surrounding area is considered one of the safest parts of the city.

On Tuesday al-Shabaab branded Mohamud a "traitor" and vowed to continue its jihad against a government it says serves only Western interests.

Kenya sent troops into Somalia in November to help crush the Islamist insurgency. Ongeri said Somalia would count on Kenya's support.

"The bomb blasts will change nothing at all. We are determined. We are there for the country and until that course has been achieved," Regina Ongeri, a spokesperson for Kenya Defense Forces, told Reuters. Reuters

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The WORLD

Editor: Lawrence B. Quncio

US strikes on Iran seen risking major Mideast war

WASHINGTON—US military strikes on Iran would shake the regime's political control and damage its ability to launch counterstrikes, but the Iranians probably would manage to retaliate, directly and through surrogates, in ways that risked igniting all-out war in the Middle East, according to an assessment of an attack's costs and benefits.

The assessment said extended US strikes could destroy many most important nuclear facilities and damage its military forces but would only delay—not stop—the Islamic republic's pursuit of a nuclear bomb.

"You can't kill intellectual power," said retired Army Lt. Gen. Frank Kearney, who endorsed the report. He is a former deputy director at the National Counterterrorism Center and former deputy commander of US Special Operations Command.

The report compiled by former government officials, national security experts and retired military officers is to be publicly released Thursday. It says achieving more than a temporary setback in Iran's nuclear program would require a military operation—including a land occupation—more taxing than the Iraq and Afghanistan wars combined.

An advance copy of the report was provided to The Associated Press.

The assessment emerges against the backdrop of escalating tensions between Israel and the US over when a military strike on Iran might be required. The Israelis worry that Iran is moving more quickly toward a nuclear capability than the United States believes. The US has not ruled out attacking but has sought to persuade Israel to give diplomacy more time.

Israel views a nuclear-armed Iran as a mortal threat, citing Iran's persistent calls for the destruction of the Jewish state, its development of missiles capable of striking Israel and Iranian support for Arab militant groups.

"Drones (cannot be) another program is for potential purposes only.

An oft-stated argument against striking Iran is that it would add to a perception of the US as anti-Muslim—a perception linked to the US-led invasions of Iraq and Afghanistan and hardened by Internet-based video excerpts of an anti-Muslim film that may have incited Tuesday's deadly attack on a US diplomatic office in Libya.

"Planners and pundits ought to consider that the first and utmost following a Pitch essay about an obscure film are probably a function of what could happen following a strike...by the Israelis or US—on Iran," retired Lt. Gen. Gregory Newbold, an endorser of the Iran report and a former operations chief for the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said in an interview. AP

WORLD BRIEFS

K. Rouge 'First Lady' mentally unfit, to be freed

PHNOM PENH—One of the most senior figures in Cambodia's brutal Khmer Rouge regime is set to walk free this week after an international court ruled on Thursday she was mentally unfit to stand trial over the deaths of hundreds of thousands of people on her watch as Minister of the 1970s "Killing Fields" revolution. Ieng Thirith, had made no improvement in her mental state since last November, the court said, when experts said she was suffering from Alzheimer's disease. The 80-year-old, known as the "Khmer Rouge First Lady" would be released on Friday if no appeal was lodged by prosecutors, said Nath Pinaddra, a spokesman at the Extraordinary Chambers in the Court of Cambodia (ECCC), as the hybrid United Nations-Cambodian tribunal is known. Reuters

Russia PM says punk rockers should be freed

MOSCOW—Prime Minister Dmitry A. Medvedev said Wednesday that he believed that three female punk rockers jailed for a protest stunt in Moscow's main Russian Orthodox cathedral should be released rather than serve out their two-year sentences, weighing in on a case that has drawn widespread condemnation in the West. At a meeting with officials from United Russia, the pro-Kremlin party that he leads, Medvedev was careful to assure his audience that he did not approve of the women's performance of an anti-Kremlin song at the Cathedral of Christ the Savior, saying that even thinking about it made him nauseated. But he went on to say that further incarceration would be "unproductive"—the most explicit commentary to come from a high-ranking official since the May 17 sentencing. "Imprisonment in a very severe—I would even say a frightening—responsibility," Medvedev said. "What has already happened—that the said women group of girls have been in prison quite a long time—is a very serious punishment for everything they did, regardless of the sentence." New York Times News Service

China's missing leader-in-waiting resurfaces

BEIJING—Xi Jinping has made his first public communication in nearly two weeks, state media said Thursday, amid seething speculation about the whereabouts of China's leader-in-waiting. Vice President Xi has not been seen in public for 12 days and has canceled meetings with four foreign dignitaries including US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, giving rise to intense speculation about his health. His unexplained disappearance has come at a highly sensitive time for China, which is gearing up for a generational hand-over of power. That has already been stymied by two major political scandals involving senior communist officials. On Thursday, state media said he had "expressed condolences on the death of old pals comrade Huang Ruing," who died on Sept. 6—a day after Xi missed a planned meeting with Clinton. AFP

US judge blocks indefinite detention law

WASHINGTON—A federal judge Wednesday blocked the government from enforcing a controversial statute about the indefinite detention without trial of terrorism suspects. Congress enacted the measure last year as part of the National Defense Authorization Act. The ruling came as the House voted to extend for five years a different statute, the Fisa Amendments Act, that expanded the government's power to conduct surveillance without warrants. Together, the developments made clear that the debate over the balance between national security and civil liberties is still unfolding 11 years after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11. New York Times News Service

UK apologizes for blaming victims in soccer disaster

LONDON—Nearly a quarter of a century after 96 Liverpool soccer fans were crushed to death in one of the worst stadium disasters in history, Prime Minister David Cameron formally apologized Wednesday to the victims' families, saying their "appalling deaths" were compounded by an attempt by the police, investigators and the media to depict the victims as lawbreakers and to blame them for the disaster.

Before a hushed House of Commons, Cameron said the families had suffered "a double injustice" in the failures of the police, fire and other authorities to investigate the disaster or to contain its media coverage. It was left to others then to follow[ed] to cover up the police findings by altering dozens of witness statements, and to pin responsibility on the victims for their own deaths.

The prime minister's apology, and the findings of a new inquiry panel on which it was based, marked a stunning reversal in a saga that had been an open wound in British since April 15, 1989, when 5,000 Liverpool supporters sought to attend semi-finals soccer between Liverpool and Nottingham Forest at Hillsborough Stadium in Sheffield, 150 miles north of London. All but one of the victims perished that day, many of them within minutes. The last victim remained in a coma until he died in 1993.

It has become known simply as the Hillsborough disaster, a horrifying reference point for sports officials throughout the world, and it has come to symbolize an era of soccer-team hatreds, soccer fans and the measures that clubs and the police took to contain them. Moves separated rival fans and prevented them from throwing bare bottles and other missiles onto the field. Clashes with the police were common.

The violence has resulted in the past decade, and the report has become a more hostile-friendly affair, with fans on drinking in the stands and the elimination of the crowded terraces, where much of the rowdiness occurred.

In effect, Cameron's apology amounted to an acknowledgment that the official version of what happened on the Hillsborough disaster was a sanctioned whitewash, eagerly crafted by the police, on a far more complex event that had its roots in hooliganism and worse up by the authorities. New York Times News Service

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- Basic eyes 3 new contracts /B5

Editor Raul G. Marcelo • Assistant Editor Corrie S. Mariano
BUSINESS

AG&P, Texas firm set up infra venture

By Paolo G. Montecillo

LOCAL industrial firm AG&P and Texas-based construction company Fluor Corp. have joined forces to create a new entity that will take on big-ticket infrastructure projects around the world.

$100-M entity to tackle big-ticket int'l projects

Both firms yesterday announced that the formation of a joint venture company, to be known as AG&P Fluor Asia Ventures Co., which would provide a full range of integrated engineering, fabrication, modular assembly and construction services to Fluor's clients.

Both partners will invest at least $100 million combined for the new venture, which is expected to create 1,000 new jobs for skilled workers in the years ahead.

"Consistent with our growth strategy, this new venture with AG&P enables Fluor to provide our clients with an integrated construction model that is both cost-effective and will help reduce construction schedules thereby increasing our clients' ability to bring their project to completion faster," said Peter Oosterveer, president of Fluor's Energy & Chemicals Group.

"Fluor and AG&P have a long-standing business relationship and history of working together in the Philippines over the past 35 years. We look forward to strengthening this relationship to improve our clients' projects and meet their business needs," he added.

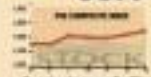
AG&P specializes in the fabrication of modular infrastructure projects for clients in the oil and gas, power, chemical and mining industries.

FROM OUT OF THE BIG BLUE
President Aquino engages Samuel Palmisano, chair of IBM Corp., in a conversation during the recent IBM Think Forum held at the Makati Shangri-La. With them is Cordelia Chung of IBM (left).

INDICATORS

PESO-DOLLAR RATE
Sept. 13, 2012
41.750

STOCK MARKET
Sept. 13, 2012
33.4



Stocks gain as Asia pins its hopes on Fed

LOCAL share prices tracked gains in other Asian markets as investors remained hopeful that the United States Federal Reserve's recent move to spur the world's largest economy.

The benchmark Philippine Stock Exchange Index (PSEi) yesterday gained 33.4 points, or 0.64 percent, to close at 5,248.58.

The broader all-shares index rose 0.47 percent. The property counter was the only sector in the red at the end of trading, losing 0.48 points. It was dragged down by Ayala Land Inc., which lost 1.34 percent.

STOCKS B2

BCDA opts for open bid in sale of Taguig lot

By Riza Olchondra

THE BASES Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA) has opted to dispose of its upscale property in Taguig City via an open competitive bidding, instead of engaging in a "Swiss Challenge."

BCDA president and CEO Arnel Paciano D. Casanova said it would be "more advantageous" for the government to conduct open bidding for its land assets and "unlock" the value of the property to real estate developers.

The sale of the property was said that it has informed the original proponent, SM Land Inc. (SMLI), of the change in proceedings, and invited SMLI to participate in the open bidding for the Bonifacio South property.

In a statement issued yesterday, BCDA said it decided to sell the property through open competitive bidding following a directive from the Office of the President.

BCDA has set as the date for the open auction, but its board of direc-

BCDA B4

Advertisement-free TV shows

HOW WOULD you like to watch your favorite television programs without any advertisement interruptions?

For people who want to maximize their TV viewing time, a device that can make advertisements disappear from the screen without affecting the quality of the programs would be welcome.

Sky or perhaps for those who look to advertisement breaks as a chance to go to the toilet, grab a bite, send text messages, or attend to simple tasks and still be able to watch the rest of the program.

A gadget that allows viewers to enjoy advertisement-free TV shows is now the subject of a court case in the United States that pits major TV networks against the company selling that instrument.

Early this year, Dish Network Corp., a company engaged in direct satellite broadcast service in the US, launched a digital video recorder that has a feature called "PantaRay" which enables its users to watch TV programs minus the commercials.

The technology can record select prime time features of major TV networks that subscribers can view at their convenience the right days after they were aired without advertisements.

There were mixed reactions to this gizmo. For TV aficionados, it's a "dream come true" for TV enjoyment without unwanted interruptions. Some parents have looked at it as means to protect their children from alcohol and fast food advertising.

Objections

Not surprisingly the TV networks are cautious in the US are unhappy about this facility. They expressed serious concerns about its adverse effects on their principal source of revenue: advertising.

In a bid to prevent Autohop from gaining public acceptance, CBS Corp., Fox Broadcasting Co., NBC Universal Corp., and ABC Corp. filed suit in a California court against Dish Network to stop its sale.

The TV stations argued that, first, the deletion of the advertisements violates Dish Network's contract with them on the recording and re-broadcast of their programs, and second, the feature will discourage advertisers from buying air time for the promotion of their products and services.

"Dish Internet advertisements overcome viewers, the networks claim they are banned to sudden sessions of national issues.

But in June, Dish Network stated that the TV audiences had the right to control its viewing experiences. Contrary to the claim that TV commercials, the device does not delete the commercials but merely allows its users to "fast forward" the recorded programs without affecting their quality.

A consumer group then weighed in on the issue now nothing illegal with the device and viewed it as an effective means to encourage more people to watch TV.

Advertisements

The TV audience in our country can relate to the issues involved in the Autohop case.

For years, Filipino viewers have been made to suffer (and still have the heavy load of commercials on free TV to the point that some prime time TV programs have been described as "advertisement series interrupted by some regular television feature."

It is not uncommon in many of today's TV programs to have 30 to 32 30-second commercials that are aired three or four times, or roughly five to seven minutes each of continuous advertisement, to each hour shown.

These breaks are in addition to station IDs and promotions of ongoing or future TV programs which take up to six or eight minutes.

Ironically, many of the cable channels—which promote themselves as more in substance and less in advertisements—have gone the way too of free TV in their commercial revenue programming.

Of course, more advertisements mean more money for the TV networks to the delight of their stockholders. But it is doubtful if to the present the advertisers are getting their money's worth from their expensive commercials.

What's the promotional value of these advertisements when the TV viewers' attention is located elsewhere to take advantage of long commercial breaks?

It's money down the drain if a viewer goes out without the target market watching or, even if present, is multi-tasking while waiting for the lengthy advertisement spiels of dish or cosmetic.

Encoders

No doubt, TV networks cannot survive unless they broadcast commercial programs, without the advertisements providing the needed financial support. The revenue stream from commercials is the lifeblood.

The problem is, some TV stations have gone overboard in packing their programs with advertisements that are notably long or repetitive and, as a result, virtually push their viewers into getting off their seats and doing something else to make the most of their idle time.

The TV networks probably think that the majority of viewers of free TV do not have the means to pay for cable channels and therefore have no choice but watch their shows, they just have to bear with the heavy advertisement load. After all, bargain cannot be choosers.

The days of this "who cares" attitude are numbered. It will be just be a matter of time, regardless of how the court case earlier mentioned goes, before some enterprising Filipino businessmen are able to get the franchise to market the hand-held or something similar in the Philippines.

Whoever gets the license to bring in this device in the country can look forward to a ready market. Relief it is right for advertisement saturated couch potatoes.

(For feedback, please write to (pal-ebrosa@inquirer.net.ph.)

D&L Industries to raise P6.3B via IPO

By Dustin Luca

D&L INDUSTRIES, a manufacturer of food ingredients and specialty plastic containers and additives, is raising up to P6.3 billion through an initial public offering, according to company filings with regulators.

Based on its registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, D&L plans to sell up to 3.07 billion primary shares, representing up to 30 percent of its outstanding capital, through an international and domestic offering.

Proceeds from the offer will be used for investments and acquisitions, payment of financial obligations and general corporate purposes, the company said.

The offer period is to be conducted in the fourth quarter of 2012, after which the shares would be listed on the Philippine Stock Exchange.

D&L is an industrial group established almost 50 years ago by brothers Oscar and Lucio Co. It holds a 54 percent stake in publicly listed Chemrez Technologies.

Aside from its investment in Chemrez, D&L is the market leader in various industries where it operates through its wholly-owned subsidiaries.

The company produces hundreds of variants of its products and focuses on designing customized and specialty product solutions for customers, mostly in the food and plastic products businesses.

Through wholly-owned subsidiary Dina Foods Inc., the manufacturer a line of specialty fats and oils, culinary and other specialty food ingredients, industrial fats and oils for leading food manufacturers and fast food restaurant chains in the country.

Another wholly-owned subsidiary, Rova Pack Industries, is the only manufacturer of three-piece tinplate cans in the country.

All-State Chemical Technologies is engaged in the manufacture and sale of specialty industrial chemicals such as binders, powder coatings and resins, which have various applications in the construction, shipping and furniture industries.

The firm's consolidated revenues increased from P9.2 billion in 2009 to P12.8 billion in 2011, representing a compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) of 18 percent, while its consolidated net income increased from P520 million in 2009 to P997 million in 2011, representing a CAGR of 138 percent.

The company sees sustained growth driven by a flourishing Philippine economy.

Maybank ATR Kim Eng Capital Partners Inc. have been tapped as the lead international and domestic underwriter, issue manager and sole bookrunner for the IPO.

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Sept. to Nov. 2012 Course Line-up
Venue: Makati City
Sept. 20, Thurs. (1:00-4:00pm) — Analytical Business Scorecard by Josiah Go
Sept. 20, Thurs. (4:30-7:30pm) — Competing to Win by Josiah Go
Oct. 12, Fri. (1:00-4:00pm) — People Skills and Positive Communication by Cheryl Encarnacion-Go
Oct. 12, Fri. (4:30-7:30pm) — Motivating Your Team by Maria Fe Morales
Oct. 13, Sat. (1:00-4:00pm) — Professionalizing Your Sales Calls by Renato Estrada
Oct. 13, Sat. (4:30-7:30pm) — Corporate Presentation Delivery by Kristin Estrada
Nov. 8, Thurs. (1:00-4:00pm) — Time Activity Management by Benj Macasaet
Nov. 8, Thurs. (4:30-7:30pm) — Managing Your Sales Force by Benj Macasaet
Nov. 10, Sat. (1:00-4:00pm) — Effective Leadership by Eric Abrahamse
Nov. 10, Sat. (4:30-7:30pm) — Effective Coaching by Eric Abrahamse
Entrepreneur

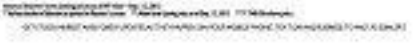
Stocks gain

From page B1

Japan's Nikkei 225 index was up 0.5 percent, South Korea's Kospi gained 0.1 percent, and Hong Kong's Hang Seng rose 0.2 percent, mainly on expectations that the US monetary authorities would announce fresh stimulus to help invigorate the economy.

One analyst said investors remained bullish on the domestic economy, which has outperformed most of its Asean neighbors this year.

A report by research firm Global Source Partners Inc. said the Philippine economy would likely grow by 5.8 percent this year, near the top end of the government's target. Paolo G. Montecillo



PNOC EC to take over Shell CNG station

Gov't pushing for increased use of clean fuel by transport sector

By Amy R. Remo

PNOC EXPLORATION Corp., the upstream oil and coal arm of state-run Philippine National Oil Co., expects to take over by March 2013 the compressed natural gas station in Laguna owned by Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp.

The acquisition is expected to be used as a platform by the government to aggressively push for the massive use of alternative fuels like CNG for public transport in the Philippines.

The Department of Energy wants to have as many as 1,000 buses running on CNG.

According to PNOC EC chief of staff Ildefonso Perusian III, the company will be transferring the CNG refilling station in Hampstead, Laguna, as soon as it takes over the facility in March next year.

This means that it will replace the compressors and equipment within the station with the latest and most suitable technology for this purpose.

The current technology used at the Hampstead station was partly blamed for the inability of Shell to provide adequate supply to CNG bus owners.

PNOC EC is still reviewing the offer submitted by seven companies for the supply and maintenance of CNG equipment at the Hampstead station.

"If the Hampstead gas station is successful, we will build more gas stations," Perusian added.

PNOC EC is also still waiting for DOE approval of the price of CNG, which was previously priced at P14.25 a liter.

While the government could not bring down CNG prices to the same level, Perusian said that the new price would still be lower than diesel prices.

Aside from the refilling stations, PNOC EC is also looking over the CNG market action in Batangas.

These were formally agreed upon on 19 April this year with the signing of three agreements covering the transfer of the facilities, supply of gas from the Malampaya field off Palawan, and contracts with the CNG bus operators.

PRULINK	PRU LIFE UK
Investments in Variable Life Insurance Contracts	Sep. 12, 2012 / Sep. 5, 2012
Bond Fund - Peso	2.2009 / 2.2017
Managed Fund - Peso	3.7758 / 3.7749
Growth Fund - Peso	3.9801 / 3.9818
Equity Fund - Peso	1.5715 / 1.5692
Bond Fund - US Dollar	2.0380 / 2.0400
Asian Equities Fund	1.1611 / 1.1600
Balanced Pesos Fund	1.1406 / 1.1391
Preferred Fund - Peso	1.0788 / 1.0820
Money Market Fund - Peso	1.0000 / 1.0000
Asian Countries Fund - US Dollar	1.0788 / 1.0800

PLDT SME Nation partners with the Junior Chamber International-Manila (JCI), a non-profit organization with over 3,000 members nationwide, which aims to empower citizens to create a positive change in the communities they belong to. JCI regularly holds local development activities such as Entrepolitan Entrepreneurship for Nation-building, Gen of Life Project and Bureau Energy Summit. PLDT SME Nation Vice President and Head Ken Lorenz Abelardo (3rd from left) joins JCI Manila President Rodney Dizon (2nd from left) in a contract signing event. Also in the photo are JCI Manila Executive Treasurer Carlo Villegas and PLDT SME Nation Community Consultant Francis Olivo (far left and right, respectively).

BCDA opts for open bid in sale of Taguig lot

From page B1

nies it most objected to approve the terms of reference for the forthcoming sale.

The property is at the northern side of Bonifacio Global City and is located between Newport City and McKinley West, near Forbes Park.

The property used to be occupied by the Army Support Command and Special Services Unit of the Philippine Army, the Bonifacio Naval Station, until the Philippine Marine Corps of the Philippine Navy.

In August 2011, the BCDA published the invitation to real estate firms to submit comparative proposals to challenge the unsolicited proposal of ALI for the 33.1-hectare) asset.

Ali Dittia expressed interest in the property after Ayala Land Inc. (ALI), Filipinas Land Inc. (FLI), Aries Land Inc., Lodestar Investment Corp., Megaworld Corp., Robinsons Land Corp. (RLC), and Rockwell Land Corp. (Rockwell).

But before that year, the proceedings were put off due to a policy review by the Office of the President on the lease matter, joint-venture/sale mode and other issues on relocation and implication, among others.

Last Aug. 15, the BCDA wrote to BSEI vice president David Rafael, saying that "the Office of the President has decided to put the development of the subject property on public bidding. In this light we regret to inform you that we are not executing the proceedings on the competitive challenge and shall be returning the proposal security."

According to Canseco, transparency is "the heart of public bidding. [and] will ensure that everything is above board."

This will encourage "the best bidders to compete in a level playing field," he added.

Canseco noted that the recent participation of top real estate developers in the bidding of the 14-hectare portion of the Naval Terminal Inc. property in Taguig City reflected the healthy and sound state of the country's real estate sector. Ayala Land Inc. bested the other developers in acquiring the P35 property.

Canseco said BCDA's landbank launch property would elicit strong interest from the country's top developers due to the strategic location and business potential of the area.

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PERFORMANCE COACHING FOR SUPERVISORS AND MANAGERS
By Enrique Abadesco, Jr.

LEADERSHIP: RESOLVING ORGANIZATIONAL MISUNDERSTANDING, CONFLICTS AND ISSUES
By Ramon Jabinal

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Bankard Inquirer

Smart partners with USAID for mobile money project

IN SUSTAINED efforts to address the needs of the financially underserved, Smart Communications, Inc. (Smart) has joined forces with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to promote the use of mobile money services in the Philippines.

Smart and USAID recently launched the leading innovations in Mobile Money (MMM) project, which aims to increase within two years the country's active mobile money users' base by over 1 million, and boost the value of mobile money transactions by more than 200 percent.

"The ultimate goal of this project is to advance financial inclusion and, in effect, remove barriers to the country's economic growth. Smart has been subscribing this for years, so we are very happy to partner with USAID for this endeavor," said Smart Financial Services Head Tricia Duran.

"Smart understands the world's first electronic wallet service – Smart Money – in 2001 because we realized early on the benefits of using mobile money, especially for those in areas that have limited or no access to financial services. Our mobile money services are currently available in 30 million Smart subscribers, 18 million of whom have Smart Money accounts," she added.

Since 2008, Smart has been implementing the Islands Activations Program (IAP) which allows Filipinos in far-flung areas to perform money transfers via Smart-powered mobile phones. It also enables people to purchase electronic load, pay bills, and make micro-purchases with a few clicks on their mobile phone.

"We have successfully rolled out IAP in more than 50 areas. Residents of these areas no longer have to travel far hours to complete financial transactions. Through Smart's partnership with USAID, we hope to give more communities easy access to formal financial services so they can enhance the way they live and carry out business," Duran said.

According to a report by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, about 74 percent of Filipinos do not have access to formal financial channels, and 37 percent of the country's 1,634 municipalities have no banks.

"By offering a safe, cost-effective, and more convenient way of doing business, mobile money technology will provide an important tool to promote financial inclusion and transparency," said USAID/Philippines Mission Director Gloria Steele.

The MMM project aims to provide 10,000 people new savings accounts via mobile banking, establish 2,500 new cash-in/cash-out merchant partners focusing on rural areas, and train more than 30,000 people on the uses of mobile money for improved household financial management.

It also seeks to increase payroll implementation and adoption of 30 small, medium, and large businesses and one government agency or local government unit.

"This innovative partnership will enable Filipinos even from the remotest parts of the country to send money home, save money, pay for unexpected medical costs, school fees, or invest in their business using their mobile phones. It builds upon SMART/Philippines Center's experience in microfinance and mobile banking to expand financial services through new technologies," said Maria O'Neill, USAID Chief Innovations, Women and Development Counselor in the Administration.

In this photo taken during the launch of the SPRT project are (from left) Smart Public Affairs Head Ramon Isberto; USAID/Philippines Project Management Specialist Maria Teresita Esperida; BSP Deputy Governor Nestor Espenilla; USAID Chief Innovation Officer and Senior Counselor to the Administrator Maria O'Neill; BSP Monetary Board member Ignacio Bunye; Smart Financial Services Head Tricia Duran; Smart Senior Manager for Financial Services Raphaela Ramos; and USAID/Philippines Mission Director Gloria Steele.

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For more information, log on to www.bpiloans.com or call (02) 845-6888.

*Exclusive to existing BPI depositors and subject to income verification

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM
ELLIPTICAL ROAD, DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY

NOTICE OF COVERAGE FOR LANDHOLDINGS UNDER PHASE 3-A

Pursuant to the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law or Republic Act (R.A.) No. 6657, as amended, the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) is mandated to cover under the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP), Phase 3-A, the following landholdings:

REGION II - CAGAYAN

	NAME OF LANDOWNER	LAST KNOWN ADDRESS OF LANDOWNER	TITLE NO.	LOT NO.	SURVEY NO.	AREA (has.)	LAD STATUS	LOCATION OF LANDHOLDING (Municipality, Barangay)
1	JUNIO, JOSEFINA	19 SOUTH TRIANGLE ST. DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY	112259	1124-1755	Cad-01	0.0000	for	GONZAGA, CAGAYAN/PAMA

REGION III - BATAAN

	NAME OF LANDOWNER	LAST KNOWN ADDRESS OF LANDOWNER	TITLE NO.	LOT NO.	SURVEY NO.	AREA (has.)	LAD STATUS	LOCATION OF LANDHOLDING (Municipality, Barangay)
1	RAMOS, REX C. RAMOS, CONSUELO T. RAMOS, JOSELITO T. RAMOS, AURORA T. RAMOS, KATRINA T.	3RD VILLAGE TRADE AREA MABALACAT, PAMPANGA CITY	T-104851	1180	Cadastral Claimed	T 1.0000	for	MABALACAT, PAMPANGA

REGION III - BULACAN

	NAME OF LANDOWNER	LAST KNOWN ADDRESS OF LANDOWNER	TITLE NO.	LOT NO.	SURVEY NO.	AREA (has.)	LAD STATUS	LOCATION OF LANDHOLDING (Municipality, Barangay)
1	CABAUGAS, BENJAMIN	SR. PARAMOUNT MARILAO, BULACAN	314853			10.0000	for	CALUMPIT, BULACAN (Under Restrictive Interest Clearance)
2	CONTINENTAL CEMENT CORPORATION - BCI UNIT	4TH MEZZANINE ST. ANDREW BUILDING, GREEN HILLS, SAN JUAN	T-68145	15	TSD-03-000000	10.1000	for	SAN JOSE DEL MONTE (MALAYAN)
	TOTAL					20.1000		

REGION III - PAMPANGA

	NAME OF LANDOWNER	LAST KNOWN ADDRESS OF LANDOWNER	TITLE NO.	LOT NO.	SURVEY NO.	AREA (has.)	LAD STATUS	LOCATION OF LANDHOLDING (Municipality, Barangay)
1	CORPUZ-MACUNE CHRISTI CORPUZ-MACUNE	NO. 19 SAMPALOC ST. GREENHILLS VILLAGE, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA	27353	3575	114-2-738	1.0000	for	MABALACAT, PAMPANGA
2	MANUEL, MARIA	BALIWAG, BULACAN	5777	2900		1.7000	for	ST. CRISTOBAL (BEL-AIR, PAMPANGA)
	TOTAL					20.1000		

REGION IV - CAVITE

	NAME OF LANDOWNER	LAST KNOWN ADDRESS OF LANDOWNER	TITLE NO.	LOT NO.	SURVEY NO.	AREA (has.)	LAD STATUS	LOCATION OF LANDHOLDING (Municipality, Barangay)
1	ARTIAGA, ARSENIO	1ST FLOOR, ARTIAGA BUILDING, 1 ARTIAGA ST. BINONDO, MANILA	1217	4-A 4-B	Psu- Psu-	14.7564 14.7564	for	SAN BUENAVENTURA (BAYAN)
2	PADUA, OLIVIA ELENA & PADUA, ROSALIE CLARA	1 ARTIAGA ST. BINONDO, MANILA	1217	4-A	Psu- Psu-	14.7564 14.7564	for	SAN BUENAVENTURA (BAYAN)
3	MAPUA, ELENA	1 ARTIAGA ST. BINONDO, MANILA	1217	4-A	Psu- Psu-	14.7564 14.7564	for	SAN BUENAVENTURA (BAYAN)
4	MAPUA, ANTONIO	1 ARTIAGA ST. BINONDO, MANILA	1217	4-A	Psu- Psu-	14.7564 14.7564	for	SAN BUENAVENTURA (BAYAN)
	TOTAL					59.0256		

REGION V - ALBAY

	NAME OF LANDOWNER	LAST KNOWN ADDRESS OF LANDOWNER	TITLE NO.	LOT NO.	SURVEY NO.	AREA (has.)	LAD STATUS	LOCATION OF LANDHOLDING (Municipality, Barangay)
1	BANCLAY, MARIA	BEL-AIR, MAKATI CITY	16-1479	1-A-2-A	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
2	BUBAN, LOUIE	BEL-AIR, MAKATI CITY	16-2048	1-A-2-B	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
3	BUENO, JOSE	BEL-AIR, MAKATI CITY	16-2049	1-A-2-C	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
4	BUTOY, PURIFICACION	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18864	1-A-2-D	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
5	CRISOSTOMO, JULIAN	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18865	1-A-2-E	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
6	DEL CARMEN, ANTONIO	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18866	1-A-2-F	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
7	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18867	1-A-2-G	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
8	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18868	1-A-2-H	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
9	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18869	1-A-2-I	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
10	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18870	1-A-2-J	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
11	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18871	1-A-2-K	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
12	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18872	1-A-2-L	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
13	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18873	1-A-2-M	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
14	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18874	1-A-2-N	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
15	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18875	1-A-2-O	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
16	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18876	1-A-2-P	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
17	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18877	1-A-2-Q	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
18	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18878	1-A-2-R	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
19	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18879	1-A-2-S	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
20	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18880	1-A-2-T	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
21	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18881	1-A-2-U	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
22	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18882	1-A-2-V	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
23	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18883	1-A-2-W	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
24	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18884	1-A-2-X	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
25	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18885	1-A-2-Y	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
26	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18886	1-A-2-Z	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
27	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18887	1-A-2-AA	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
28	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18888	1-A-2-AB	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
29	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18889	1-A-2-AC	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
30	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18890	1-A-2-AD	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
31	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18891	1-A-2-AE	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
32	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18892	1-A-2-AF	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
33	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18893	1-A-2-AG	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
34	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18894	1-A-2-AH	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
35	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18895	1-A-2-AI	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
36	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18896	1-A-2-AJ	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
37	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18897	1-A-2-AK	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
38	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18898	1-A-2-AL	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
39	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18899	1-A-2-AM	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
40	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18900	1-A-2-AN	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
41	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18901	1-A-2-AO	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
42	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18902	1-A-2-AP	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
43	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18903	1-A-2-AQ	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
44	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18904	1-A-2-AR	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
45	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18905	1-A-2-AS	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
46	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18906	1-A-2-AT	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
47	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18907	1-A-2-AU	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
48	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18908	1-A-2-AV	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
49	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18909	1-A-2-AW	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
50	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18910	1-A-2-AX	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
51	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18911	1-A-2-AY	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
52	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18912	1-A-2-AZ	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
53	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18913	1-A-2-BA	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
54	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18914	1-A-2-BB	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
55	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18915	1-A-2-BC	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
56	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18916	1-A-2-BD	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
57	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18917	1-A-2-BE	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
58	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18918	1-A-2-BF	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
59	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18919	1-A-2-BG	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
60	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18920	1-A-2-BH	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
61	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18921	1-A-2-BI	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
62	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18922	1-A-2-BJ	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
63	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18923	1-A-2-BK	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
64	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18924	1-A-2-BL	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
65	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18925	1-A-2-BM	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
66	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18926	1-A-2-BN	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
67	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18927	1-A-2-BO	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
68	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18928	1-A-2-BP	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
69	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18929	1-A-2-BQ	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
70	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18930	1-A-2-BR	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
71	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18931	1-A-2-BS	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
72	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18932	1-A-2-BT	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
73	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18933	1-A-2-BU	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
74	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18934	1-A-2-BV	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
75	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18935	1-A-2-BW	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
76	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18936	1-A-2-BX	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
77	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18937	1-A-2-BY	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
78	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18938	1-A-2-BZ	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
79	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18939	1-A-2-CA	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
80	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18940	1-A-2-CB	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
81	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18941	1-A-2-CC	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
82	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18942	1-A-2-CD	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
83	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18943	1-A-2-CE	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
84	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18944	1-A-2-CF	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
85	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18945	1-A-2-CG	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
86	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18946	1-A-2-CH	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
87	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18947	1-A-2-CI	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
88	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18948	1-A-2-CJ	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
89	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18949	1-A-2-CK	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
90	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18950	1-A-2-CL	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
91	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18951	1-A-2-CM	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
92	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18952	1-A-2-CN	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
93	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18953	1-A-2-CO	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
94	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18954	1-A-2-CP	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
95	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18955	1-A-2-CQ	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
96	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18956	1-A-2-CR	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
97	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18957	1-A-2-CS	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
98	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18958	1-A-2-CT	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
99	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18959	1-A-2-CU	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
100	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18960	1-A-2-CV	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
101	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18961	1-A-2-CW	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
102	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18962	1-A-2-CX	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
103	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18963	1-A-2-CY	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
104	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18964	1-A-2-CZ	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
105	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18965	1-A-2-DA	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
106	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18966	1-A-2-DB	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
107	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18967	1-A-2-DC	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
108	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18968	1-A-2-DD	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
109	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18969	1-A-2-DE	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
110	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18970	1-A-2-DF	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
111	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18971	1-A-2-DG	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
112	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18972	1-A-2-DH	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
113	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18973	1-A-2-DI	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
114	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18974	1-A-2-DJ	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
115	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18975	1-A-2-DK	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
116	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18976	1-A-2-DL	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
117	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18977	1-A-2-DM	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
118	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18978	1-A-2-DN	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
119	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18979	1-A-2-DO	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
120	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18980	1-A-2-DP	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
121	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18981	1-A-2-DQ	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
122	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18982	1-A-2-DR	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
123	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18983	1-A-2-DS	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
124	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18984	1-A-2-DT	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
125	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18985	1-A-2-DU	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
126	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18986	1-A-2-DV	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
127	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18987	1-A-2-DW	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
128	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18988	1-A-2-DX	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
129	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18989	1-A-2-DY	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
130	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18990	1-A-2-DZ	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
131	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18991	1-A-2-EA	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
132	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18992	1-A-2-EB	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
133	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18993	1-A-2-EC	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
134	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18994	1-A-2-ED	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
135	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18995	1-A-2-EE	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
136	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18996	1-A-2-EF	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
137	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18997	1-A-2-EG	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
138	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18998	1-A-2-EH	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
139	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-18999	1-A-2-EI	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
140	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-19000	1-A-2-EJ	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
141	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-19001	1-A-2-EK	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
142	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-19002	1-A-2-EL	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
143	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-19003	1-A-2-EM	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
144	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-19004	1-A-2-EN	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
145	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-19005	1-A-2-EO	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
146	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-19006	1-A-2-EP	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
147	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-19007	1-A-2-EQ	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
148	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-19008	1-A-2-ER	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
149	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-19009	1-A-2-ES	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
150	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-19010	1-A-2-ET	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
151	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-19011	1-A-2-EU	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
152	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-19012	1-A-2-EV	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
153	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-19013	1-A-2-EW	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
154	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-19014	1-A-2-EX	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
155	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-19015	1-A-2-EY	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
156	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-19016	1-A-2-EZ	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
157	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-19017	1-A-2-FA	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
158	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-19018	1-A-2-FB	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
159	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-19019	1-A-2-FC	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
160	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-19020	1-A-2-FD	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
161	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-19021	1-A-2-FE	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
162	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-19022	1-A-2-FF	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
163	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-19023	1-A-2-FG	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
164	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-19024	1-A-2-FH	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
165	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-19025	1-A-2-FI	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
166	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-19026	1-A-2-FJ	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
167	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-19027	1-A-2-FK	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
168	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-19028	1-A-2-FL	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
169	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1-19029	1-A-2-FM	CAD 703	0.7500	for	LIBON, CAMALIGAN
170	DEL CARMEN, VICENTE	LIBON, ALBAY	16-1

Sales of imported cars up

By Riza T. Olchondra

THE ASSOCIATION of Vehicle Importers and Distributors Inc. (AVID) reported Thursday that it was driving industry growth with increased sales in the first eight months of 2012.

AVID registered a 24 percent growth in total sales with 19,075 units sold in the first eight months of the year versus 16,008 units in the same period last year.

January-August 2012 also saw growth in the passenger car segment.

The segment drove overall sales up by 36 percent to 12,049 units sold compared to 8,847 units sold from January-August last year, AVID said in a statement.

The demand for AVID members' best-selling passenger cars is expected to accelerate sales performance toward the end of the year, when automakers from Filipinos living and working abroad usually increase due to the Christmas holidays.

Top three contributors to positive sales were Mini Cooper distributor British United Automobiles Inc., Chevrolet distributor The Covenant Car Company Inc. and Hyundai Asia Resources Inc.

"With our backlog-up portfolio of products and services, AVID is more than ready to expand to the ever growing clamor for our products," AVID president Ma. Fe Sison-Agrda said.

AVID also showed a year-on-year sales growth of 1.8 percent in August, with unit sales reaching 1,868 from 1,835 units sold in August last year.

Besides British United Automobiles Inc., The Covenant Car Company Inc. and Hyundai Asia Resources Inc., other AVID members are GMA Motors, Sumitsubishi Motors and Motor Image Philippines Inc.

Basic eyes 3 new contracts

By Reiy R. Ramos

PHILEC listed Basic Energy Corp. expects to earn seven more service contracts to explore and develop Philippine geothermal resources, after meeting the requirements prescribed by the Department of Energy.

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange yesterday, Basic Energy said it received a letter last month from the DOE, which said that the company's applications for geothermal renewable energy service contracts covering blocks in East Mankayan, Sangpor, Mariveles, Batangas, and Iriga, Camarines, has had passed the legal, technical and financial requirements.

"With the company's compliance with the processing and evaluation requirements of the DOE, the geothermal renewable service contracts for the geothermal areas shall be executed upon final approval of the DOE," Basic Energy said.

The East Mankayan geothermal area covers Benguet, Mt. Province and Ilocos. It lies immediately east of the Geysumbo, Ilocos Sur geothermal block of San Pascilio Power Hills Inc., south of the Bessang Pass National Road, which is operated by Maynilad Energy Resources and immediately south of the Tubao block operated by Clean Rock Energy Inc.

The Mariveles, Bataan geothermal area is on the West Luzon Volcanic Arc, which starts from Mt. Pinatubo in the north and extends south across the Manila Bay toward Mariveles and northwestern Mindoro.

Meanwhile, the Iriga, Camarines Sur geothermal area is surrounded by the Isarog geothermal block of PNOC RC and the productive Tiwi geothermal service contract area of the Alcantara-led AboitizPowerled Inc.

According to Basic Energy, these three geothermal projects are to have a total of 70 megawatts (mw) capacity by the year to look into new projects in renewable energy development and production.

The company also has a planned 30-megawatt Mahanagdong geothermal power project in Leyte province.

Power facility is operated through, Basic Energy plans to sell the generated power in the electric cooperatives and the wholesale electricity spot market (WESM).

REGION VII – WESTERN VISAYAS

	NAME OF LANDOWNER	LAST KNOWN ADDRESS OF LANDOWNER	TCT/OCT NO.	LOT NO.	SURVEY NO.	AREA (sq. m.)	LAS PHASE	LOCATION OF LANDHOLDING (Barangay, Municipality, Province)
1	PACNOC GRAND	CANTON, DALAHICAN	21744	3470		3,997	III	SURIGAO DEL NORTE

REGION IX – MUSLIM ORIENTAL

	NAME OF LANDOWNER	LAST KNOWN ADDRESS OF LANDOWNER	TCT/OCT NO.	LOT NO.	SURVEY NO.	AREA (sq. m.)	LAS PHASE	LOCATION OF LANDHOLDING (Barangay, Municipality, Province)
1	TOMAS TRIAS II	DAVAO DEL SUR	7381	1100	Cad 281	4,000	III	DAVAO DEL SUR

REGION XI – DAVAO DEL SUR

	NAME OF LANDOWNER	LAST KNOWN ADDRESS OF LANDOWNER	TCT/OCT NO.	LOT NO.	SURVEY NO.	AREA (sq. m.)	LAS PHASE	LOCATION OF LANDHOLDING (Barangay, Municipality, Province)
1	HEIRS OF EMILIO G. LAPEÑA III	DAVAO DEL SUR	14851	14844	PSD 9402	10,000	III	DAVAO DEL SUR

REGION XII – NORTH COTABATO

	NAME OF LANDOWNER	LAST KNOWN ADDRESS OF LANDOWNER	TCT/OCT NO.	LOT NO.	SURVEY NO.	AREA (sq. m.)	LAS PHASE	LOCATION OF LANDHOLDING (Barangay, Municipality, Province)
1	PANGANIBAN, ROGELIO	KIDAPAWAN, COTABATO	T-40254	179	PLS-1154	4,000	III	KIDAPAWAN, COTABATO
2	ABANTAS, RAYMUNDO	MAGANOY, PORTION NUMBER 2	T-14977	3444	PSD-12-000811	10,000	III	MAGANOY, MAGUINDANAO
3	BERNAL, IDA	PULUNGMASI, CITY OF CALOOCAN	T-1114	T-10020		10,000	III	PULUNGMASI, CALOOCAN CITY
4	LORENZO, MARGARITA	MAKATI CITY, METRO MANILA	T-40261	2822	CSD-12-000810	4,000	III	POLOMOLOK, SOUTH COTABATO
			T-40260	22	PLS-1154	10,000	III	POLOMOLOK, SOUTH COTABATO
5	JOSE LOT 5 SUBDIVISION	COTABATO CITY	T-2000	5800		12,107	III	POLOMOLOK, TUPAYA
	TOTAL					60,000		

REGION XIII – CARAGA NORTE

	NAME OF LANDOWNER	LAST KNOWN ADDRESS OF LANDOWNER	TCT/OCT NO.	LOT NO.	SURVEY NO.	AREA (sq. m.)	LAS PHASE	LOCATION OF LANDHOLDING (Barangay, Municipality, Province)
1	CERVERA, VIRGILIO		T-4599	61	GPA-09	10,000	III	TUBAY, AGUSAN
2	ESCAÑO, ANTONIA C.	DO	T-1780	5554		8,000	III	CARMEN, AGUSAN
	MONTES, EDNA							
3	CHUNG, JIN	TAMBOBONG, BUTUAN	3	8-A-1-C		10,000	III	TAMBOBONG, BUTUAN
4	CHU, JANE	TAMBOBONG, BUTUAN	T-1224			1,000	III	TAMBOBONG, BUTUAN
5	LORENZO, A. ESTEVEZ	CAMPUPOT, BUTUAN CITY	T-1780	5554	PSD-13-000181	10,000	III	TUNGAO, BUTUAN CITY
						60,000		

REGION XIII – CARAGA SUR

	NAME OF LANDOWNER	LAST KNOWN ADDRESS OF LANDOWNER	TCT/OCT NO.	LOT NO.	SURVEY NO.	AREA (sq. m.)	LAS PHASE	LOCATION OF LANDHOLDING (Barangay, Municipality, Province)
1	DE LAUTEL, ARTHUR	CANTILAN	T-1243	1611	T5-173	10,000	III	CANTILAN, SURIGAO DEL S.
2	VIDAL, ANGELITA	CANTILAN	T-1243	1611	T5-281	10,000	III	CANTILAN, SURIGAO DEL S.
	DE LAUTEL, ARTHUR							
3	DIAZ, TIMOTEO	CANTILAN	T-1243			10,000	III	CANTILAN, SURIGAO DEL S.
	TOTAL					30,000		
	GRAND TOTAL					3,100,000		

Under Phase II-A, actual land acquisition and distribution will be implemented by the DAR, in so far as the areas indicated above are concerned, upon the landowner's emplacement/agreement/undertaking in accordance, however, that landowners may exercise the following options:

1. Choose the preselection in excess of ten (10) hectares of his/her landholding to be covered under Phase I-A and the 10 hectares area to be retained coverage under Phase II-B
2. Exercise in advance his/her rights retain an area not exceeding five (5) hectares pursuant to Section 6 of RA 6657;
3. Offer under voluntary offer to sell (VOS) the aggregate landholding, above his/her retention limit for immediate DARP coverage; or
4. Offer under Voluntary Offer to Sell (VOS) the entire landholding, including his/her retention for immediate DARP coverage.

Within thirty (30) calendar days from the date of publication of this NOC, most of the above named landowners must respond to the NOC, manifesting therein the option he/she has chosen (COMPER LAD Form No. 4) A Landowner's Reply to Notice of Coverage of Lands Under Phase I-A) and submitting the following documents to support his/her option, as may be applicable:

1. Approved Survey Plan or sketch plan certified by a licensed Geodetic Engineer of the abovementioned property;
2. Landowner's choice of area in excess of 10 hectares for coverage under Phase II-A (COMPER LAD Form No. 4-B) and sketch map thereof;
3. Landowner's Letter Offer for VOS (COMPER LAD Form No. 10) and supporting documents;
4. Manifestation to exercise in advance the right to retain an area not exceeding five (5) hectares (COMPER LAD Form No. 4-A) and sketch map of the portion sought to be retained. The LO may declare a retention area at the same time that he/she executed his manifestation to exercise the right of retention. If this is not done at the same time, the landowner can choose the area within a non-extendible period of fifteen (15) days after manifesting his/her/their desire to exercise the said right. However, in the case of (1) heirs who filed a manifestation to partition the co-ownership or unsettled estate and choose a retention area within sixty (60) days from receipt of the NOC. The failure to invoke his/her/their/the deceased area within the fifteen (15) day or sixty (60) day period, whichever is applicable, shall be deemed a waiver to do so, and shall subsequently be considered as an intention for the area to be released. This cargo landowners or successors are advised to comply with the provisions in Sections 10, 11, 12 and 17 of DAR AO 1, 2, 2011 (COMPER LAD Form Nos. 5 and 6);
5. List of names of nominated children as preferred beneficiaries (SAMPER LAD Form No. 1);
6. List of tenants, laborers, and/or regular farm workers duly attested (SAMPER LAD Form No. 4);
7. Manifestation to application for exemption/exclusion or protest from DARP Coverage (COMPER LAD Form No. 9). The Application/Petition for Exemption or Exclusion or Protest from DARP coverage may be filed together with the above mentioned Manifestation. If it is not filed by this, the LO can file it. Together with the documents required by the rules on exemption or exclusion, within sixty (60) days from receipt of this NOC. Non-submission thereof within this reglementary period shall be construed as a waiver to abandonment of his/her/their right to file said Petition for Exemption or Exclusion or Protest DARP coverage with respect to the landholding covered.

In the case of numbers 4 and 5 above, the failure to supply with the requirements of this NOC within the prescribed period shall be a waiver of the landowner's privilege to nominate children as preferred beneficiaries and right to effect to his tenants, lessees, or regular farm workers. If any.

This Notice shall also serve as a notification to whosoever may interest on the property as successors in as transferees that he/she should manifest and apply in writing his/her legal interest over the subject property to this DAR Provincial Office within fifteen (15) days from receipt/publication of this Notice of Coverage.

BENJAMIN PAYUMO MARINAS
Director, Bureau of Public Information and Coordination

September 13, 2012
Date

Marketing Buzz

BUSINESS Friday

E-mail: business@inquirer.com.ph
Website: www.inquirer.net/business
Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

Copywriter who wrote her ticket to success

By Roger Pe
Contributor

IF ADVERTISING great David Ogilvy were alive today, he would be inventing as much as he would be posting memes on Facebook.

Chances are, your followers will also be reinventing his nuggets of wisdom and not-so-old friends, thinking his posts were twice over.

Last year, the advertising industry celebrated the 100th birthday of a man regarded as the Father of Advertising. Brainwise, acclaimed author of two of the industry's most influential books: "Ogilvy on Advertising" and "Confessions of an Advertising Man."

At the end of the longest ride **ranger ever rolled in Caesars' Palade des Sentiods**, a big billboard was mounted with this copy: "On this date in 1930 years ago, David was born to couples."

On to the next 100 years. Would Ogilvy's words be as relevant as it was inspiring when he scribbled them?

Universal truths and immortal **teachings cannot be quantified** by traditional equations, supposably if you have to believe in "codified" as Stanley Thenping, newly appointed country head and CEO of Ogilvy Manila.

Thenping was barely two days old in her new post during the Business Friday interview.

Interestingly, her appointment came on her third anniversary in Ogilvy, an unbreakable feat that she really sees destined to break one of the country's dynamic ad agencies.

Thenping immediately strikes her audience with characteristics similar to strong Filipino women of the industry: Emily Abrera and Tody Villanueva-Ong.

On her acceptance of the challenge, David Mayer, Ogilvy & Mather (O&M) president said:

"Thenping has proven herself to be a collaborator, a business builder, a brand expert and in the new digital age, a leader beyond compare."

Ogilvy, the creative people read up on managing today's business?

She begins, not with a view of climbing ties with a view of a certain business mountain ready to roll the punches and face the battle.

"I never dreamt of being a CEO. I just watched how people, like Vincenzo Cledoffo (former chair of Basic Advertising), did it. I just fell in love with the industry and invested in something that was very gratifying," **she recollects on her journey.**

To Thenping, gratification is gaining a lot of discipline in everything she does, whether it's in the agency, or outside of it—competition, and curiosity as more closely with the emergent area Philippine consumer," she says in an announcement.

Before she became Ogilvy's CEO, Thenping's portfolio is thick with awards garnered from the world's most prestigious brand-building

The multidisciplined creative **talks has literally and figuratively** gone places inroads in international pull together a formidable team in each of Ogilvy's value-oriented departments whatever it being were part of valued talents.

"I want to come up with work that Filipinos and consumers can be proud of and relate to," **she says.**

"I am looking forward to serving the creme-be Ogilvy with a series of success that will put the agency ahead of the competition, and curiosity as more closely with the emergent area Philippine consumer," she says in an announcement.

Before she became Ogilvy's CEO, Thenping's portfolio is thick with awards garnered from the world's most prestigious brand-building

Dame there, she has done.

She drove on the agency and admits that she is lucky to be in an organization that constantly asks you to do better.

Regionally and globally, the Ogilvy network is at the iconic pole of extensive rankings. It is redundant to mention that it is 2012's Cannes Network of the Year, a dizzying achievement that ranked the second-largest in the world's biggest advertising festival.

In the Philippines, the agency is a vibrantly creative company with five consecutive stints to excellence in Gawad Kalinga's communications services.

OgilvyOne, even Digital Agency of the Year and Red Works, was picked as the POM Production Agency of the Year in last year's 19th Agency of the Year awards.

Judging by with true grit, Thenping is proud of the fact that Ogilvy is aligned with her own values. "That's the reason why I keep coming back to the agency."

She tells people there is genuine respect in what people do in Ogilvy. She trusted right in target and determined to serve Ogilvy to new heights based on her vision.

"You want to understand others it is headed. That's what keeps me up at night. It's solving others you have something to look forward to when you wake up in the morning," she testimonies with circumspect.

David Ogilvy's quotes are like precious gems in a jewelry box, which among them would she pick as her favorite?

Thenping can't be caught flustered. The staunch lawyer and fierce advocate of Ogilvy's discretion answers with a mark of a true leader.

"If you always hire people who are smaller than you are, we shall become a company of dwarfs. If, on the other hand, you always hire people who are bigger than you are, we shall become a company of giants."

Thenping hints that in her head every time she interviews people. She makes it a point to probe and ask: "Will the probable candidate make me insecure?"

Thenping is Ogilvy-genuine. **find an interior we caught her** grabbed in some shades of red, the Ogilvy corporate color.

"In the world of 24-hour-day **three days,**" she bullets. "While we want our business to grow every year, we want to do it the better way—close smartly."

How does she inspire people?

"I lead by example. If people are working on it, I am working on it. I don't micromanage people, if you need me, ask me."

Nothing is beneath Thenping. She still carries the values many Philippine advertising greats taught her.

She values honesty and people who do their work passionately.

She treats everyone in Ogilvy as an extension of her family—caring about it trying to bring out the best in people, sharing what she had learned throughout her colorful, disastrous career.

Giving something back for Thenping is no obligation, it's an impulse you'll find her teaching Grand Communications at UP-College of Mass Arts every Saturday.

She has previously held Ad-vertising, Direct and Interactive Creative Director positions and as Ogilvy's Regional Creative Director for Kimberly Clark Asia Pacific. Ogilvy Worldwide's Regional Creative Director for Pampers and AWT's Regional CD for Kraft Asia Multifoodsia.

She came back to Ogilvy Manila in March 2008 as 360 planning director and also was talent broker.

Today, the copywriter who **never had her own ticket to her new-** by brand destination has arrived.

The passionate observant who has partnered with many brilliant Filipino creatives and worked under the scrutiny of legendary Neil Perush has gone! Full circle.

Hey, that's inspiration be-yond words.

Manila Water's sustainability report: Journey of commitment

MANILA WATER recently launched its fourth-straight 2011 Sustainability Report by recognizing key personalities that contributed to the accomplishments of the report through their commentaries and testimonials and formally presenting them the report.

The ceremonial moment was graced by socio-civic luminaries, local government officials and other personalities and friends from the academe and private sector. Various beneficiaries of Manila Water's sustainability programs were likewise recognized in the event, hosted by Manila Water's Heidi Domingo and basketball superstar and co-winner Chris Tiu.

In narrating the proceedings, Manila Water Group Director for Corporate Strategic Affairs and Fast Zone Business Operations Ferdinand dela Cruz acknowledges that the report signifies how the company continues to go up the ladder of its sustainability commitment **across many dimensions with more vaulted** methods.

"The 45 testimonies from program beneficiaries and stakeholder partners and commentaries from the panel of seven distinguished sustainability experts humanize the report beyond the 80+ indicators and core areas of improvement," Dela Cruz adds.

As one of report commentators on the

MWC report complies with two international standards

READING through testimonials are Lea Locsin and Ayeliquezel dela Cruz.

event, Mathias Tee Mayor Jose Ildefonso Gallo notes Manila Water's commitment to provide the same quality service to all of its customers in the East Zone, regardless of how much it costs the company. He particularly cites Upper Bicutan in Barangay Signature, urban only 50 families strong.

"Manila Water spent almost P20 million to supply water to 50 dwellings, or 30 families. Sagi, hindi ho ba? But you know, Manila Water is very responsible. That is why they dare to spend P20 million to supply water and energize those dwellings," shares Gallo.

Antipolo City Board Member Ronald Ilarcosa affirms this by acknowledging Manila Water's stakeholder approach as a good model for service. "Creating or enabling setting, engaging your people and empowering them. It is good that this company (Manila Water) is employing these approaches and we would like to see this as a benchmark for LGUs. This sustainability report is all about engagements, it is all about enabling customers and it is all about empowerment," shares Ilarcosa.

Manila Water's 2011 sustainability report is the first for a Philippine company that complies with two internationally-recognized standards. Apart from complying with the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) guidelines, as it has for the past eight years, the 2011 report also adheres to the ISO 26000 guidance on social responsibility. This level of compliance is a clear testament to Manila Water's commitment to embed sustainability in its business operations. For Bonar Lazareta, Executive Director of Philippine Business for the Environment (PBE), the report embodies this commitment. "These things that Manila Water has been doing is a testament that indeed we serve good hands and it assures us that water will be available through now-of-reasonable perpetuity," says Lazareta.

Former Executive Secretary Jesus Ocampo Orbos, for his part, says this commitment is evident in the report. "If you are the investor, as outside requirements go, this you should also be in the business of sustainability. The whole report is about the future, it's about life, and it's about us and the future generation," proclaims Orbos.

Based on the updated ISO 22.1 standards on sustainability reporting, Manila Water's report achieves Level A application level and reports on all indicators pertaining to its social, environmental and economic performance. The report likewise tackles the company's practices with regard to human rights, product responsibility, labor and decent work, and other important themes. The report features some 35 testimonials from stakeholders, as well as seven commentaries from a panel of sustainability experts to validate accuracy and truthfulness.

The ISO 26000 standards, on the other hand, provided guidance on recognizing social responsibility and stakeholder identification and engagement based on similar indicators as that of GRI such as organizational governance, environment, labor practices, consumer protection, and community involvement and development.

For his closing remarks, Manila Water president and CEO Gerardo C. Ablaza reiterates the company's three pillars of sustainability: social responsibility, environmental sustainability and economic viability. "These are the pillars we are committed for Manila Water to make sure that each of these dimensions is equally healthy and robust. That is our commitment and the report that we are launching today is just our way of communicating the underlying principles behind these pillars," says Ablaza.

Highlights of the report include a showcase of Manila Water's policies and practices on employee recognition and labor-management relations, customer-centric programs and community development platforms, environmental stewardship, as well as programs that help build the local economy, focusing on grassroots empowerment.

'How do we get good but cheap market research?'

Q: RETRUNTT not a big company to get her on our way. I founded this consumer company some eight years ago after leaving one of the big three consumer multinationals where I was a category manager. That's where I learned how useful market research is in developing any marketing campaign of any kind.

But over the years, market research has grown more and more expensive. I get used to my margins being squeezed as a specific brand to customers a la Unilever, Colgate, Ajinomoto, Bingo! ready for his or her brand at least some extent.

A business friend of mine who's in the automotive accessory business told me to try going for a do-it-yourself (DIY) **marketing research set up** as really be research cost-effective. He told me that you had set-up one for them (no years ago, but I think our research adviser isn't yet that much of warrior a DIY and right now we do not even have a market research manager. Each brand's market research needs are the responsibility of the marketing executive in charge. So we'd like to stick to commissioning research to a third party agency.

But can you share how to get the most out of my limited research budget. What can we do? How do we get good but cheap market research?

A: As far as market research is concerned, you actually have two basic concerns. One is immediate and the other is nearly long-term.

Your immediate concern is, as you put it, how to get good but cheap market research if you continue commissioning your research projects. Your nearly long-term concern is how to get into a DIY research set up. We say "here" and not "whether" because eventually you will have to. But this is an issue we'll reserve for our next Friday column. For now, we'll diagnose and MKx your more immediate research need.

Let's talk about your UM research on that we're round to be and let's talk about options. But in, options versus your continuing to commission your UM to a full-service survey agency. There are at least two options

for getting a "good but cheap" UM.

The first is to go away from a full-service survey agency and turn in favor of a specialized field-and-tab survey agency. When you explore this option, make sure that you choose from among duly "accredited" field-and-tab agencies. You can check with MORES (Market and Opinion Research Society) for the accredited agencies.

Resorting to a field-and-tab agency means that this agency will do just the mid-stages of the survey process, namely, field data collection and tabulation.

So who's to do the "front-end stages," namely survey design and data analysis? That should be you or your marketing and brand executives.

Of course, one difficulty here (that's more imagined than real) is your assumption that your marketing executives have never done research designing and most especially, data analysis. You may be in for a surprise if you asked them. Those who have attended our Applied Marketing Research (AMR) seminar already know how because those two skills of designing and analyzing are included in the seminar's lectures, examples and cases, and research and data analysis exercises.

Those who were intent in learning may again surprise you when they show you that they can do better research designing and even better data analysis than what the analysts (especially those who are newly hired and inexperienced) from your own in-house full-service agency provide.

If you have no one who has had the AMR seminar training, you have two options again. One is to hire and ask them to carefully read our item-selling Client-Friendly Marketing Research Tools (3rd Edition) and learn research designing and correct and actionable data analysis from there. The other option is to send them to attend our next AMR seminar offering.

What's the alternative to resorting to the services of a field-and-tab agency? For your better a year UM survey requirements for a year or your brand, you may want to consider subscribing to an "Omnibus Survey Services" (OSS). In his 1999 Opinion Polls book Nick Moon, Director of Strategy and Brand Research at GfK's NOP Research Group, a pioneer of the Omnibus survey, says that in effect an omnibus survey "sells space on its questionnaire" to all the eating passengers of the bus, so to speak. For any omnibus driver (or passenger), omnibus surveys represent the most cost-effective survey method as compared to conducting their own survey.

So if you can observe your UM survey into adding only 15 or even 20 questions, you can take advantage of OSS' quarterly and nationwide omnibus survey services known as "Social Weather Surveys." That is a very affordable method to quarterly survey when you can subscribe and you pay by the number of questions you want answered. In your subscription of, say, 18 to 20 close-ended questions will entail only about 18 percent to 15 percent of the P3 to P5 million total cost if you were to commission this nationwide (1,500 sample size are very P if you're not after a nationwide coverage and are only interested in one region, say, NCR, then a proportionate large reduction in the total cost of subscribing will accrue to you. This option opens to you doing many more surveying way from your earlier times a year UM, from the same budget. What we said about your taking care of the book-end stages of research, namely designing and data analysis applies in this option.

We singled out SWS because of its established reputation for high quality field and data processing. Gallup World Poll has recognized SWS for these capabilities by giving it such an award and by choosing it over even the world's largest survey agencies when it appointed SWS more than years ago to do its surveys for the Philippines.

Keep your questions coming. Send them to us at mkpbs-mgdla@pldtdsl.net or dexmktsur-fachtgr@gmail.com, GodMax

BSP keeps policy rates unchanged

Current stimulus levels sufficient, officials say

By Michelle F. Remo

THE BANGKO Sentral ng Pilipinas has kept its key policy rates steady, saying the stimulus created by rate reductions done earlier this year should be enough to help monetary reliant growth for the economy.

The decision, made by the central bank's Monetary Board during its policy setting meeting yesterday, also came with the intention to temper latent price pressures and ensure that inflation is kept within the targeted ranking.

The key policy rates, which influence bank lending and other consumer, entrepreneur rates, thus stay at 3.75 and 5.75 percent for overnight borrowing and lending, respectively.

These policy rates stand at historic lows following earlier rate cuts, totalling 75 basis points, done by the BSP during its Monetary Board meetings in January, March and July.

"On balance, the Monetary Board is of the view that prevailing monetary policy settings remain appropriate," BSP Governor Amando Tetangco Jr. said in a press conference following the Monetary Board meeting.

The BSP believes that keeping interest rates steady is prudent at the moment given favorable growth of the economy so far this year and the need to contain inflation to kept manageable.

Interest rate cuts done earlier this year were meant to boost growth of the economy after a sharp slowdown in 2011. Lower rates were expected to boost demand for loans, which in turn were seen supporting increased consumption and investments.

Lower rates, however, have the tendency to push inflation.

Aided by growth in bank lending, the economy grew by an above-target pace of 6.1 percent in the first semester of this year.

"The Monetary Board took the view that the economy is strong enough to not require additional stimulus [from the central bank] at this time," BSP Deputy Governor Diwa Guinigundo said in the same press conference.

On inflation, the BSP said consumer prices are still seen staying within manageable levels. Nonetheless, it-cent uptick in prices makers is all the more wise to keep rates steady. Latest price pressures are led by increase in the cost of some food products due to supply disruptions caused by heavy rains.

In August, inflation accelerated to 3.6 percent from 3.2 percent in July. The government aims to keep inflation within the 3- to 5-percent band for this year and next year.

BPI's BanKO sees strong 2013 growth

By Michelle F. Remo

BPI Globe Banko Inc. (BanKO), the first mobile phone-based bank in the country and the world, expects to reach one million clients in 2013, citing the large demand for micro banking services, especially from the lowest income class (class E) unserviceable and down in the Philippines.

Teresita T. Sy, president of BanKO, said the bank started its retail operations only in January but already has about 200,000 clients.

She said the existing number of clients exceeded initial expectations of company officials and made the likelihood of exponential growth over the short term.

"The business model adopted by BanKO is the way to reach out to people from the farthest areas of the country. Through BanKO's affordable banking services, Filipinos gain financial independence and the opportunity to build their savings," Sy said in a joint conference yesterday.

BanKO—a firm established through collaboration among Globe, Bank of the Philippine Islands, and Ayala Corp.—is targeting clients from low-income households.

Unlike in business model, an individual who wants to open a bank account may go to any partner outlets including pawnshops, gasoline stations, convenience stores, drugstores, and money changers, require his globe mobile phone number and pay P500. Of the amount, P50 will be credited as initial balance of the bank account.

The client will then get a text message confirming the opening of the bank account. We will also receive an automated teller machine (ATM) card.

Once a bank account is opened, the client will be able to send himself or any one banking services, such as bills payments, remittance, purchase of micro insurance and application for micro loans through his mobile phone.

He account holder who wants to load his bank account with cash may do so at any of the partner outlets. For withdrawals, an account holder may either go to partner outlets or to automated teller machines.

An account holder who wants to apply for a loan may do so through his mobile phone, particularly by going to the loan application portion of the BanKO menu.

The maximum loan amount a new client may get is equivalent to his outstanding deposit balance.

DOTC gets P4.6B to build, refurbish airports

By Rainier W. Ebcrinigo

THE CONSTRUCTION and rehabilitation of two airports across the country has been provided P4.6 billion to both banks amid bloat-inducing efforts to address the public-private partnership program.

Budget Secretary Florencio B. Abad said ownership is a measure the amount was released to the Department of Transportation and Communications (DoTC) for the implementation of four PPP projects.

Of the amount, P2 billion is earmarked for the detailed engineering of the runways and taxiways at the New Legazpi Airport in Daraga, Albay.

Also, P1.64 billion is meant for the resumption of the repairs and maintenance activities at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport's Terminal 1.

The will cover the immediate repair of Nais 3's mechanical, electrical, plumbing and fire protection systems, as well as the retrofitting of the aircraft terminal.

Further, P800 million has been set aside for the Tacloban Airport's terminal building and other ancillary facilities, to support growing passenger traffic.

Moreover, P360 million will be used for the General Mitchanas Airport in North Cotabato to help ease the transport of high-value crops in and out of the region.

"The infusion will support the improvement or creation of new gateways into the Philippines, given the administration's campaign to reinvest our position as a prime tourist and investment hub," Abad said.

"Through the PPP program, we can make project implementation much more efficient and reform oriented, so that the gains we make through the initiative will be sustained in the long term," he added.

The budget chief also expressed confidence in newly installed DoTC Secretary Joseph Abaya following the reassignment of Mar Roxas to the Department of Interior and Local Government in lieu of Jesse Robredo who passed away last August.

"We welcome the appointment of Secretary Abaya and I feel that under his leadership," Abad said. "This will help speed up our PPP efforts and catalyze further economic growth to the country."

DR. George S.K. Ty, Metrobank Group chair (center), leads a toast with Antonio Moncada, Metrobank group vice chair (extreme left), Alfred Ty (president Federal Land Inc.), Arthur Ty (chair, Metrobank), Antonio Estrepanza (president Metrobank Foundation) during Metrobank's recent 50th anniversary celebrations at Shangri-La Makati City.

FPI-BOC partnership gains cited

By Nico T. Dichoso

THE FEDERATION of Philippine Industries expressed Thursday that its partnership with the Bureau of Customs (BOC) is bearing fruit in terms of initiating a historic probe on the smuggling of sensitive grains oil and other agricultural products.

The BOC, FPI said, is also finally monitoring imports of steel, tire and cooking oil.

FPI chairperson Jesus Ma Arranza, who is also concurrently the chair of the FPI anti-smuggling committee, said in a statement that industry experts from FPI have been assisting BOC in preventing technical smuggling as well as monitoring imported goods entered by mandatory certification.

Arranza said that recently BOC also issued a memorandum which provides that all importations of steel and iron products with tariff heading 72.34, petroleum oil products with tariff heading 27.09 and 27.10, raw products with tariff heading 10.06, and cooking oil with tariff heading 15.11 and 15.12, will undergo from the Office of the Commissioner.

Clearance shall only be issued when the goods have been properly examined, appraised and assessed, according to the order.

The measure signals a disruptions against those consistently smuggled products, Arranza said.

He noted that while the tariff duties on custom products might be zero, what the investigations important choices to the 12 percent value added tax.

The BOC and FPI formalized their partnership in 2010 with the signing of a memorandum of agreement during the 1st National Anti-Smuggling Summit and the subsequent issuance of Customs Memorandum Order No. 01-2011 entitled "Rules and Regulations to implement the provisions of the memorandum of agreement between the FPI, BOC Commerce the Bureau of Customs and the Federation of Philippine Industries."

BOC Commissioner Rufly Biazon later issued a BOC Memorandum dated Oct. 26, 2011 reminding BOC personnel that Customs Memorandum Order 1-2011 remains in full force and effect.

Bankers help farmers through milk

By Ernesto M. Ordoñez

TODAY, a few bankers may be milking farmers. They give farmers difficult loans to repay. They then get the farmers' lands taxed as collateral when the farmers default on their loan payments.

But here is a twister doing the exact opposite. Instead of harming farmers, he helps them through milk! This is the story of Emilio Fausto (0917-326-7765, email danny_fausto@yahoo.com), functional banker and chief of the National Capital Station of Dairy Producers in the Philippines.

Addressing poverty

Heading the call of President Cory Aquino in 1986 to go to the countryside, Fausto bought a few carabaos and returned to his rural roots in Talavera, Nueva Ecija. There he saw how a poor farmer could make money providing dairy products, and thus getting out of poverty.

Most bankers are to be commended. They help farmers that is project is profitable, and therefore marketable before a loan is given. Speaking like a banker, Fausto says that for a P60,000 investment in a dairy cow, a farmer can get P7,000 in monthly dairy revenue, spend P2,500 in monthly costs, and then get P4,500 in monthly profit. This means a P54,000 annual profit or a P60,000 investment, or a 90 percent return on investment (ROI).

Today, 2.4 million farmer families in the Agrarian Reform Program earn an average of P4,000 a month. This is below the family subsistence level (P4,000) and the poverty level (P7,031). Give this farmer just one dairy cow, which will give him an extra P6,500 income. Feed is cheap. It will then exceed the subsistence and poverty levels at P9,000 a month. Why settle for doing this?

No program

Fausto says, "Because there is no program for it." He laments the fact that many of the municipal agricultural extension workers do not even know the benefit of having dairy cows. This started happening when they were dissolved out of the Department of Agriculture (DA) and made to work for mayors, many of whom are not agriculture-oriented. Many extension workers are consequently assigned to nonagricultural work.

Fausto agrees with our previous recommendation that the DA, Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), and the government-private sector National Agribusiness and Fishery Council (NAFC) work together on a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to address that important and long festering issue.

Being an investment banker himself, Fausto stresses the economics of dairy production. He believes most banks are not lending banks to farmers for this profitable

COMMENTARY

woman because they simply do not know its potential. He further says that the DA still has to act on his proposal for a comprehensive dairy program because it likewise lacks knowledge on this issue.

National contest

Today, our import dependent dairy industry is worth P120 billion annually. But it is foreigners, not Filipinos, who benefit from this significant domestic market. Filipinos have less than 1 percent of this business because they have not tapped its potential. Fausto believes that the DA should now step into correct the situation of 99 percent poor dairy milk when we can produce the milk ourselves.

Fausto is passionate about his advocacy. "You want to get out of this poverty?" he asks. "Give a farmer family only one dairy cow, and that family will cross the poverty threshold." For this needs a comprehensive system of technology transfer, funding, and support services. Fausto says there is no such system today.

To jump-start this initiative, we recommend that dairy zones be given as grants to person-qualified farmer cooperatives in different parts of the country. One such zones is the Agricultural Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (ACEF). This has been strictly "re-engineered" by the congressional agriculture committee chairman, Francis Pangilinan and Rep. Erin Woodrow, and Agriculture Secretary Proceso Alcala. ACEF can now give grants to democratic how our dairy industry can be globally competitive.

Once the bankers see the success from these grants, they will be more confident in lending loans to farmers for dairy cows. Commending the few bankers who may be milking farmers, the majority of enlightened bankers can become a massive support force in helping farmers get out of poverty through milk.

(The author is chair of Agrimatch, former secretary for presidential flagship programs and projects, and former undersecretary for agriculture, and trade and industry. He welcomes and suggestions, email agrimatch_phil@yahoo.com or telefax (02) 922-5123.)

Transco endorsed as feed-in-tariff charge collector

By Amy R. Remo

THE NATIONAL Renewable Energy Board (NREB) has formally endorsed the state-run National Transmission Corp. (Transco) to become the administrator of the charges that will be collected from all power consumers for the use of renewable energy.

NREB chair Pedro Maniego Jr. said the letter dated Sept. 13 has reiterated their position that Transco should be the administrator of the so-called feed-in-tariff allowance (FIT-All) in compliance with the request of the Energy Regulatory Commission to members in writing each proposal. This proposal was already aired as early as May this year, he added.

It has been deemed more proper to delegate Transco as the FIT-All administrator rather than the National Grid Corp. of the Philippines (NGCP) as the proceeds to be collected from all power consumers are considered public funds.

"According to the opinion provided to NREB by the Office of the Government Corporate Counsel, FIT-All is deemed [a] public fund and thus, must be collected by a government entity, according to law," Maniego explained.

The FIT-All is a charge that stands for the financial disincentives on the rules governing the FIT-All, a critical component of the feed-in-tariff scheme, a move expected to fast-track the expected investments in the renewable energy sector and help the Philippines retain its position as the most developed RE market in Southeast Asia.

The FIT-All shall approximate the total payments required to be made to all renewable energy developers that will be entitled to the FIT rates. To recall, the FIT rates were only issued in July this year, a welcome development for developers as these rates would secure eligible investments if listed each Rates within a 20-year period.

A July 2012 paper titled "Meeting the Energy Challenge in South East Asia" by Ipsos Business Consulting earlier warned that the Philippines may be in danger of "dropping behind" in the other neighbors in the Asian given the delays in the implementation of the necessary mechanisms that will drive the growth of the renewable energy industry.

The Philippines is still by far the most developed market with an existing capacity of 5,459 megawatts, but the situation may change rapidly as all Asian governments are committed to developing renewable energy sources of energy

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True to the trade-for-notable tradition of the Aspire Timeline family, the Acer Aspire Timeline Ultra M5 features a razor-thin, light-weight frame fashion that serves as a testament to Acer's superb craftsmanship. The Ultrabook's gorgeous aluminum alloy chassis—finished in brushes of titanium silver—flaunts an elegantly designed multi-gesture touchpad and backlit chiclet keyboard with numeric keypad. It also frames and protects a bright and brilliant 14-inch LED-backlit screen, which displays everything—games, movies, photos, documents, and Web pages—in pixel-perfect HD resolution.

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The 4th Philippine International Motor Show

DRIVE THE FUN

Supplement to Philippine Daily Inquirer

New cars on the block

Carmakers preview enticing new models

By Jason Ang

PHILIPPINE carmakers continue to introduce new models to sustain the momentum of vehicle sales. Here's a sampling of new cars that were recently previewed or officially launched.

BMW has the Z4 Roadster with a fully automatic retractable hardtop. The fifth Convertible model's Series Convertible sets its walkthrough to open-air motoring. Columbian Manufacturing Corp. showed its Emerson brand, built in Laguna.

Chrysler showed off American-style power with the Jeep Grand Cherokee, Chrysler 300C and Town and Country minivan. The Dodge Charger Redline is a special version of the performance sedan.

Honda Cars' nameplate on hybrid technology was embodied with the Insight and CR-Z hatchbacks. The Insight features a 1.3-liter VTEC engine with Integrated Motor Assist, while the sportier CR-Z packs a 1.5-liter VTEC with hybrid drivetrain.

Isuzu had a full lineup of trucks, from the Alterra Urban Cruiser X, D-Max Rodeo dash 4x4 Special Edition, D-Max LS 4x2 Special Edition, as well as the N600 truck.

JMC showed the Grino outdoor SUV and Vigo pickup truck.

Kia's stunning new Optima sedan takes the looks of a British luxury sedan and merges it with a capable platform. The Optima features a sided-wave, shallow greenhouse, and elongated body in unison—all elements of a design that is arguably the best looking in the class, and it uses rear-drive-inspired cues as well.

Mazda's stylish Skyactiv technology was showcased in the Mazda 3 hatchback and sedan, CX-5 crossover, and the Mazda 6 sedan. Mazda's Skyactiv technology is a new generation of engine, transmission, body and chassis that delivers more driving pleasure and better fuel economy.

Mercedes-Benz launched the all-new E 200 Coupe with AMG Sport kit. The M-Class is the latest generation of the vehicle that practically created the luxury SUV category.

Mitsubishi Motors previewed the new Mirage subcompact hatchback. Within its 3.71-meter long x 1.665-meter wide body, prior to any mention designed as supposedly comfortable and fun. Fuel efficiency in the Mirage's selling card, making it a participant in Thailand's eco-car program, as well as making it popular in its native Japan. Mirage uses a 1.0-liter 3-cylinder engine with MIVEC variable-valve timing system. Output is 68hp and 90Nm. Start-stop and go and regenerative braking systems will be available in some markets. Mitsubishi quotes fuel efficiency of 23.2km/liter to 27.2 km/liter.

Nissan, distributed by Nissan Motor Philippines Inc. and Universal Motors Corp., showed off two of its popular global models. The X-Trail sport-cute seems like a great fit for a market overlooked by the likes of the Hyundai Genesis, Ford Mustang, Subaru BRZ, and Toyota 86. The X-Trail, like the BRZ and 86, is relatively compact and vastly stylish. The 2 liter derivative of Turbocharged engine is embedded to its design. A high-performance V6 with a rousing 310hp is at the heart of 2.

In the crossover market, Nissan has the innovative Juke. Looking like the child of the Pixel and the Batmobile, the Juke has a highly unusual design. Hidden rear doors open up to an interior good for five adults. Under the hood is a 1.6-liter direct injection turbocharged gasoline engine. 4 torque-vectoring all-wheel drive system directs drive in the corners needing it most.

Suzuki showcased the Kizashi executive sedan, designed to go toe-to-toe with the Toyota Camry, Honda Accord, Mazda6, and Subaru Legacy. The Kizashi combines a more compact exterior with a capable chassis. Kizashi carries a 2.4-liter 4-cylinder good for 180hp. The SwiftS-Concept rolled beside the Celerio and Alto.

Toyota revitalized its enthusiast image recently by launching the front-engine, rear-wheel drive 86 sports car. Engineered by Subaru, the 86 features manifold handling and superb features afforded by the low mounted boxer engine. On the other extremes of the sports car scale, Toyota's luxury brand Lexus showcased the exotic LFA sports car. LFA is built on a carbon fiber platform and carries a V10 engine for high performance. The 5th generation HS250h sedan and CT200h hybrid hatchback further bolstered up Lexus' lineup.

PRESENTING the new Optima and Sportage, Asiaworx Corp. president Domingo Ang and VP for marketing Dodie Kenar Jr., together with VIPs from Kia Motors Corp., Asia regional headquarters.

THE TYD[illegible] version of the FT86 racing coupe range.

Beauties and the best mark CAMPI motor show

By Bernardo D. Pampo

THE CHAMBER of Automotive Manufacturers of the Philippines, Inc. (CAMPI), the country's pre-eminent auto industry association, pulled all stops at the recent 4th Philippine International Motor Show, with new vehicles making their debut in the local market.

Honda Motors Philippines, Inc. (HCPI) started festivities rolling when it gave a sneak peek into its flagship Accord sedan's 9th generation model. Honda showcased a lineup of virtually new models from the Civic Hatchback to the City and the all-new fifth compact HR-V and Odyssey minivan.

Asian Carmakers Corp., local distributor of BMW, presented its collection of luxury performance cars — from the Z4 roadster, 335i and 650i Cabriolet to the BMW 1 Series hatchback, and the 3- and 5-Series high-performance sedans. ACC president Marian Perez challenged the motoring crowd to experience sheer driving pleasure at the BMW booth.

Columbian Motors Corp., distributor of Kia vehicles, boasted of an impressive lineup of new vehicles, from the top-end K9 Quoris luxury sedan and the Optima midsize sedan to the Sorento SUV, local compact SUV Sportage SUV and the Rio and Picanto hatchbacks.

Mercedes-Benz, through Philippine distributor GATE Motors, Inc., unveiled the new M-Class AMG Sport. Mercedes presented an all-SUV showcase which included the GLK Class, the GL Class, the rugged G Class, the GLK Class and the B-Class Crossover.

Honda Philippines, Inc. unveiled the bright yellow Small Concept hatchback as well as its standard offerings: the Jimny compact SUV, BR-V Crossover, Civitor and Alto hatchbacks, the APV, and the Ertiga multi-use sedan.

Isuzu Philippines Corp. showcased unwrapped versions of its tried-and-tested D-Max pickup, Alterra SUV and Crosswind. It also unveiled its best-selling MUB truck.

Toyota Motor Philippines Corp. wowed the motoring media with its new Toyota 86 — a sleek, two-door sports car. TMPC president Michitoshi Segawa boldly assured the public of forthcoming deliveries of the much-sought after 86, which should number some 4,000 units until the end of the year. Toyota also showcased a redesigned Camry executive sedan, as well as associated models of the Fortuner SUV, Vios compact sedan and the customer-end vehicle Innova using TRD parts.

Lexus Manila refurbished its stylish back-to-back with Toyota, concerned the show's early-opening day saw Lexus GS, As-Is-Where-Is dad in glittering blue descended from the ceiling of the World Trade Center Metro Manila, Lexus president Danny Isla talked about the luxury brand's design philosophy, and Lexus Manila's sales team arrived to entice luxury vehicle lovers to the IS 350s — the IS 450h and the large LS 570, the CT 200h hatchback, the GSF 350 Sport sedan, and the ES 350 executive sedan.

Toyota and Lexus entertained the crowd with performances from well-turned-yours duo Marcia Stevens and Gary Valenciano, working up some serious sweat... the popular singers dished out familiar favorites from soulful ballads to fast-paced dance tunes.

Mitsubishi Motors Phils. Corp. previewed two new vehicles intended to challenge market dominance in the SUV and compact segments where both are to be eventually sold locally. An all-new Outlander SUV and a shiny new Mirage hatchback made their Philippine debut minutes apart as their execs swept away shrouds. MMPC president and CEO Mitsuhiketa Hibino is offered to take pre-orders for the Stewardship delivery of the Mirage.

The Mitsubishi showcase featured off-road dressed orange Montero Sport and an olive green Strada pickup — both painted in matte finish and sporting big, fat tires. Also displayed were Lancer EX sports sedans with new 1.8-liter engines and a really-loved vintage Galant, last of the 1990 Emperan silky-look. Meanwhile, Mitsubishi's 1980's-vintage vehicles such as were enjoying around the new debut area of the motor show. Capping Mitsubishi's presentation was Hy Bermilla of the Diamonheads who thrilled fans with a live rock performance.

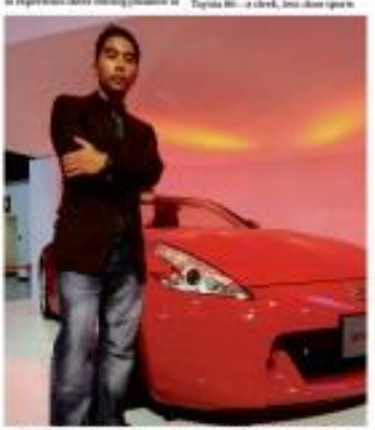
Columbian Motors Industrial Sup. Corp. (CMASIC), maker of Isuzu machinery from Isuzu, took off huge white screen from one new boom: the all-aware BF 130, which showcased its dubbed a tractor, and the BV 115, which reach a hand-built by Filipinos in Sta. Rosa, Laguna. CMASIC general manager Mel Regis introduced the Isuzu line-brand, saying the company has built 700 buses over the last three years using Isuzu technology and Philippine craftsmanship. In unveiling the bus lineup, CMASIC aptly chose Filipina Aiunne Uy from Duck in till pop number to highlight the successful relationship between the two countries.

Chinese carmaker Anhuiling Motors Import & Export, Ltd. (JMC) launched its new Orion SUV, its first high-end vehicle. Owned 70 percent by Ford, JMC is one of the largest vehicle manufacturers in China. Orion also has a pick-up counterpart that shares the same platform and drivetrain called the Rigor. Ayati Ford, the JMC it also do-

BMW/TOYOTA 83

AT THE presentation of the Duamen Bus are, from left, Colombian Manufacturing Corp. (CMMC) president Arsenio G. Yap, CMMC chair Jose Ch. Alvarez, Tourism Secretary Ramon Jimenez Jr., Campi president-lawyer Rommel Gonzalez, CMAMC general manager Mario S. Regis.

TOYOTA Philippines, Inc. president Tetsuya Matsuura with the 086.



US-BASED Filipino Randy Rodriguez with the Nissan 370Z roadster he designed.

MITSUBISHI Corporation Corp. executives Marissa Perez and Glen Dizon leading the launch of the MIVEC Lancer at the EX18F hatchback plus showcased the brand's newest technology.

Resilient auto industry seen to benefit from tourism boom

CPBNG record numbers in foreign and domestic tourist arrivals, Department of Tourism (DOT) Secretary Ramon Jimenez Jr. said automakers and dealers are becoming chance to enjoy a windfall from the country's booming tourism industry.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the 4th Philippine International Motor Show (PIMS) last Aug. 30, Jimenez said the automotive industry would benefit "more so" as promotional income of Filipinos is now their country. He predicts solely in the traveling behavior of Filipinos in the coming years, with more and more choosing to travel by land rather than air.

"In the domestic market, we could see that from eight million tours in 2008 to 27.5 million last year. It's clear that the demand is strong," he added.

Fears air to land

He said 3,644 kilometers of national road would have been built by the end of the year, marking the option of land now of more affordable and appealing to the public.

"The Philippines will one day be drivable almost anywhere," he stressed.

Senior vice president Automotive of the government's Public Private Partnership (PPP) projects would also lead to stronger vehicles sales, said Lawyer Rommel Gutierrez, president of the Chamber of Automotive Manufacturers of the Philippines, Inc. (CAMPI), organizer of the PIMS.

In connection with the DOT's highly successful "It's More Fun in the Philippines" campaign, Gutierrez added that CAMPI has a bigger ambition for the PIMS. "Our dream is for the event to run many, become a country-class to itself — in the same vein that the Tokyo Motor Show has been drawing crowds from outside Japan," said Gutierrez, who is also vice president of Toyota Motor Philippines Corp.

Up to three previous staging, PIMS drew an estimated 200,000 people.

'Resilient' auto industry

Meanwhile, banking on a higher than-expected 7 percent year-on-year sales growth for the January to July period, CAMPI had already raised its forecast for the year, predicting sales to surpass 365,000 units, up 12 percent from last year's 345,399 units.

"This manifests the resilience of the Philippine manufacturing of vehicles[illegible] overcoming many challenges," Gutierrez said.

The figures mark a full recovery for the sector, following a year that had witnessed disruptions in its supply chain due to natural disasters, including the Japan earthquake and flooding in Thailand.

As joined, the 12 member companies of CAMPI at the 4th PIMS at the World Trade Center Metro Manila in Pasay City launched the latest vehicles of Honda and showcased various developments in automotive technology.

Despite recent setbacks, the auto manufacturing and assembly industry remains to be one of the country's few remaining major industries. It has accounted for 13 percent of the country's industrial sector output and 4 percent of the total gross domestic product in 2011, according to data from the National Statistical Coordination Board.

In light of the widespread flooding that hit Metro Manila and nearby provinces, Gutierrez also led the turnover of a P100,000 donation to the Philippine National Red Cross to help in the relief efforts. PNRC chairman and former senator Richard Gordon graced the 4th PIMS opening ceremony to receive the check donation and thanked CAMPI for helping the government's rescue and relief efforts.

CAMPI's 4th Motor Show a success

Automakers vow to work closer with government on industry road map

THE CHAMBER of Automotive Manufacturers of the Philippines, Inc. (CAMPI) said its recently held 4th Philippine International Motor Show provided the public an opportunity to "experience a world-class motor show" as it vowed to cooperate closely with the government in re-visiting a road map that will further strengthen the auto industry.

Thanking the public for their support, Lenore Rommel Gutierrez, CAMPI president and vice president of Toyota Motor Philippines Corp., said: "We have managed to draw around 50,000 visitors to the first-day event. But more importance than the numbers, we have given our fellow Filipinos another opportunity to experience a world-class motor show that showcased the latest in automotive technology and moving the trends without having us set foot on foreign soil."

Promising "more for the fourth time around," the country's premier organization of vehicle manufacturers and assemblers created the motoring public with dazzling exhibitions of the latest models and advancements in automotive technology at the World Trade Center Metro Manila in Pasay City last Aug. 30 to 09.

Themed "Drive the Fun," the show rode on the Department of Tourism's "It's More Fun in the Philippines" campaign and enabled CAMPI's aspiration for the PIMS to become a motor destination and one of the top motoring events in the region.

Tourism Secretary Ramon Ramon Jr., who was guest of honor at the opening ceremony of the 4th PIMS, said carmakers and dealers are among those to benefit from the country's booming tourism industry as more Filipinos show improvement interest to see their country.

The 4th PIMS also rode high on the bank of the auto industry's strong sales performances in recent months. "The PIMS' success is a clear sign that the industry is on the road to recovery and is achieving its targets in the industry road map," said Gutierrez.

With the government's Public-Private Partnership (PPP) program finally moving, we expect improvements in our road networks and other infrastructures to drive up vehicle sales. This will enable us to sustain our momentum of growth in the coming years," said CAMPI vice president Hector Barroso, who is also first vice president at Mitsubishi Motors Philippines Corp.

CAMPI also seized the opportunity to turn over to PSBU,000 donation to the Philippine National Red Cross (PNRC) to help in rescue and relief efforts, especially in the wake of the two-week heavy monsoon rains before the motor show. Gutierrez and CAMPI chair emeritus Jose Ch. Alvarez, also chair of the Columbian Auto Group, turned over the check donation to PNRC chair Richard Gordon during the opening ceremony of the 4th PIMS.

Fuel efficiency still a buzzword at CAMPI motor show

AS METRO Manila reels from the devastation seen as an effect of disaster change, the call to be more conscious of the environment has become stronger than ever. At the 4th Philippine International Motor Show (PIMS) last Aug. 30-09, are companies and silver makeshift are getting attention.

Honda Cars Philippines, Inc. (HCPI) unveiled two hybrid cars—the CR-Z and the Insight—in the show, alongside a campaign for the immediate passage of a bill giving incentives to makers of hybrid vehicles.

"We are studying the possibility of introducing the CR-Z in the Philippine market while closely monitoring the progress of the hybrid bill that is pending in the Senate. A counterpart bill in the Lower House was recently passed on third reading," said Mitsuhi Muto, Honda Cars public relations manager.

Hybrid vehicles use a gasoline engine as the main source of power, with their electric motor providing power assist as needed, resulting in significant fuel economy and low emissions.

"It's important to make use of technology to make some of the environment," Muto added.

Once passed, the hybrid vehicles investor bill will make hybrid cars economic to our owners, paving the way for more "green" vehicles to enter the local market. The most hybrids plying the streets of Manila, the better, Muto stressed.

The Japanese carmaker has also launched 'I'M BLUE, an awareness campaign that aims to convert one million people into "eco-safe" drivers or those who consume the least amount of fuel possible while still being productive and safe.

"There's a way to drive without polluting as much," said Benar Lazarus, executive director of the Philippine Business for the Environment, one of the campaign's consensus.

Speaking in one of the seminars at the sidelines of the motor show, Lazarus cited an Asian Development Bank study which estimates that 50 to 70 percent of all imported fossil fuels in the country are burned on the road, most by gas guzzlers.

"If we reach one million drivers and this can million would cut their gas consumption by half a liter everyday, just imagine how much gas we could save," he stressed. "That's equal to 1,200 tons of carbon dioxide that's not emitted to the atmosphere."

Simple modifications to driving habits, he said, can go a long way. Avoid idling, avoid swerving and drive smoothly, and always follow preventive maintenance measures."

So far, the 'I'M BLUE campaign has reached 43 government agencies, with some 400 people benefiting from classroom and practical training. Its other customers include GMA Network, Metro Manila Development Authority, and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority.

LAWYER Rommel Gutierrez, CAMPI president and Toyota Motor Philippines Corp. vice president, thanks the media and the public for the success of the 4th Philippine International Motor Show.

TESSA Salazar (left) of the Philippine Daily Inquirer receives the award for "Best Story on the Motor Show."

CAMPI vice president and Mitsubishi Motors Philippines Corp. first vice president Dante Santos update the business and marketing media on current industry issues and the organization's ongoing and future activities after mounting a successful motor show last August.

CAMPI pays tribute to media in first-of-its-kind motor show awards

JONATHAN Collona (left) of BusinessWorld receives his award for "Best Motor Show Front Page Photo."

FERMIAN Lee (left), editorial director of Kaine.com, receives the award for Gerald Chua who won for "Best Motor Show Front Page Story."

Eight media organizations bag awards

THE CHAMBER of Automotive Manufacturers of the Philippines, Inc. (CAMPI) said its 4th Philippine International Motor Show last Aug. 16-19 at the World Trade Center Metro Manila succeeded in "driving the fun," thanks in part to the overwhelming support from the media.

The country's premier organization of vehicle manufacturers and assemblers donated the CAMPI Motor Show Media Awards 2012 to "recognize the contribution of media to the success of our motor show," Enrico Rommel Gutierrez, CAMPI president and vice president of Toyota Motor Philippines Corp., said at the awards night last Sept. 7.

Now on its second year, the CAMPI Motor Show Media Awards is the first of its kind in the country and probably the rest of the world. It aims to promote the country's biggest motoring event and help raise public awareness on current auto industry issues.

Editorial chief Jeb PGAS-Asmar, "Drive the Fun," CAMPI doubled the cash prizes this year for all 13 categories of the awards. The Philippine Daily Inquirer bagged the top prize for "Best Motor Show Coverage" and earn P20,000 and trophy. Other winners, who each received P15,000 cash and a trophy, were the following:

- "Best Coverage on the Motor Show (Print category)": Philippine Daily Inquirer (Jong Arcano, Motoring editor)
- "Best Coverage on the Motor Show (Broadcast category)": "Inside Motoring," DZRJ

(hosted by Mark Montoya and Faggy Quesada)

- "Best Coverage on the Motor Show (Online category)": Interaksyon.com
- "Best Motoring Page on the Motor Show": Manila Times
- "Best Story on the Motor Show": Tessa Salazar of the Philippine Daily Inquirer
- "Best Photo on the Motor Show": Boyet Good Automotiveimpact.com
- "Best Motor Show Blog": Dino Talamoso of Topgear.com.ph
- "Best Opinion Column on the Motor Show": Butch Santos of the Philippine Daily Inquirer
- "Best Front Page Photo on the Motor Show": Jonathan Collenos of BusinessWorld
- "Best Front Page Story on the Motor Show": Gerald Chua of Kotse.com
- "Best Business Story on the Motor Show": Ben Arnold de Vera of Interaksyon.com
- "Best Environmental Story on the Motor Show": Charles Bolao of the Philippine Daily Inquirer

The year's panel of judges were composed of: Maria E. Balmaceda, a professorial lecturer at the College of Mass Communications of the University of the Philippines in Diliman and senior director at auditing firm SGV & Co.; Benik Cotoco, award-winning veteran photojournalist and current holder of the world record for mounting the "World's Largest Photo Mosaic"; Ms. Salve Ingalin, TV anchor and senior vice president of ABS-CBN News Channel; Cynthia L. Ernst, a 22-year veteran in corporate communications and marketing communications and former chairperson of the Anvil Awards mounted yearly by the Public Relations Society of the Philippines (PRSP); Dr. Donald Patrick Lim, managing director of MRM Worldwide, the digital and relationship marketing arm of the global advertising giant McCann Worldgroup, and former president and CEO of Yehey! Corp.; Bernard Pranoto, chair and CEO and co-founder of Writers Edge, a 10-year-old editorial consultancy firm; Jun Sepe, photo editor of the-freedom.com and lecturer on photography at De La Salle University-Taytay; Jane Ortiz, a veteran graphic artist, photographer painter and manga expert; and Dr. Dante M. Velasco, chief strategist and chair of Creative Point, a 10-year-old public relations firm, and former undersecretary for Communications and Action Center of the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC).

CHARLES Bolao (left) of the Philippine Daily Inquirer receives the award for "Best Environmental Story on the Motor Show."

GUTIERREZ and Santos together with Campi PR Committee chair Yvan Dytianquin (extreme right) and Campi secretary general Marissa Concepcion (second from right) presents the Best Motor Show Coverage trophy to the PDI Motoring team, from left, Butch Santos, Charles Bolao, Tessa Salazar and Jong Arcano.

BARNEY Co (left) of Autodeal.ph.com, receives the award for "Best Motor Show Photo."

MATT Montes (left), one of the hosts of "Inside Motoring," the motoring program on radio station DZRJ, displays the award for "Best Motor Show Coverage (Broadcast category)."

JING Garcia (left), motoring editor of Interaksyon.com, the online portal of TV5, accepts the award for "Best Motor Show Coverage (Online category)."

BRIAN Mirasol (left), Motoring Section editor of The Manila Times, receives the award for "Best Motoring Page on the Motor Show."

PDI COLUMNIST Butch Santos scores with the Best Opinion Column on the Motor Show.

PDI MOTORING editor Jong Arcano shows off the trophy for the Best Coverage on the Motor Show (Print category).

Motor show girls: more than meet the eye

WOMEN and driving, some say don't usually mix. But why is it that motor shows around the world — from Bangkok to Bologna — can't seem to draw crowds just by relying on their ultra-modern machines, without the need for leather-clad?

At the 4th Philippine International Motor Show (PIMS) last Aug. 30–19 at the World Trade Center Metro Manila, this age-old formula again worked its magic.

Clad in revealing clothing outfits, motor show promo girls marched the newly launched cars on parade, competing for attention from motor show patrons.

'Ms. World' of motor shows

Reflecting the intersectional culture of the PIMS, the hunk babes came in varied nationalities and proclivities, turning the motor show virtually into a "Ms. Universe Show | World" pageant.

From a welcoming Romanian model to a forward movement, from statuesque Gilas-esque petite beauties—their presence on the show floor became a sure-fire crowd magnet.

Upon entering the motor show venue at the World Trade Center Metro Manila, two European models immediately greeted visitors at the Shell booth where an F1 replica is also drawing a steady stream of curious onlookers.

Half-German, half-Filipina Enja Weitzen, 23, came to the Philippines to study and modeled on the side. After three years in the country, the easy-going psychology major now speaks fluent Filipino, which may shock some because of her strong Caucasian features. She says she likes it that Filipinos are hospitable and warm, but hates it when they treat her differently just because she doesn't look like the average Pinay.

Claudia Mitca is a Romanian model last adding a break in the Philippines when the motor show gig came up. A seven-year veteran of global modeling events all over the world, Claudia does fashion shows and presentations for a host of clients.

"I stay in a country for a maximum of three months, then leave. I like the job. Meeting new people, traveling," she says. She likes the weather in the Philippines and had been to Boracay and Baguio.

No babes in the woods

Inside the main hall of the World Trade Center Metro Manila, full-time camp model Mallow Bacalso made heads turn at the Toyota pavilion. At 22, Mallow has already built a four-year modeling career. This motor show veteran is also a makeup artist, and events hostess and a future food entrepreneur.

Modeling for Honda's hybrid car, Insight, is 19-year-old Kenneth Espinosa, a political science major from the Colegio de San Juan de Letran. An aspiring lawyer, she says she likes modeling in motor shows because of the fun factor. She is also aware of her celebrity side adds.

Over at the Nissan pavilion, 23-year-old Leslie Sinclaire, an aspiring flight attendant and hostess in pitching the carmaker's compact SUV, Juke. This sweetest student loves the job, as she enjoys meeting new people. Big bucks also come with it don't hurt, too, she adds.

Over at the Suzuki booth, licensed sanitarian Maybelle Villadelgado cancels all on a special elevated pavilion to show off the Swift S-Concept car. A full-time model, she says she's proud of her education and is determined to put her degree to good use, working for a food company in the near future.

Beauties and the best mark CAMPI motor show

Pampanga Bks 1

played its Hunter series of pickup trucks. CMC general manager Andy Cheng said the Chinese brand has been making vehicles for the past 45 years.

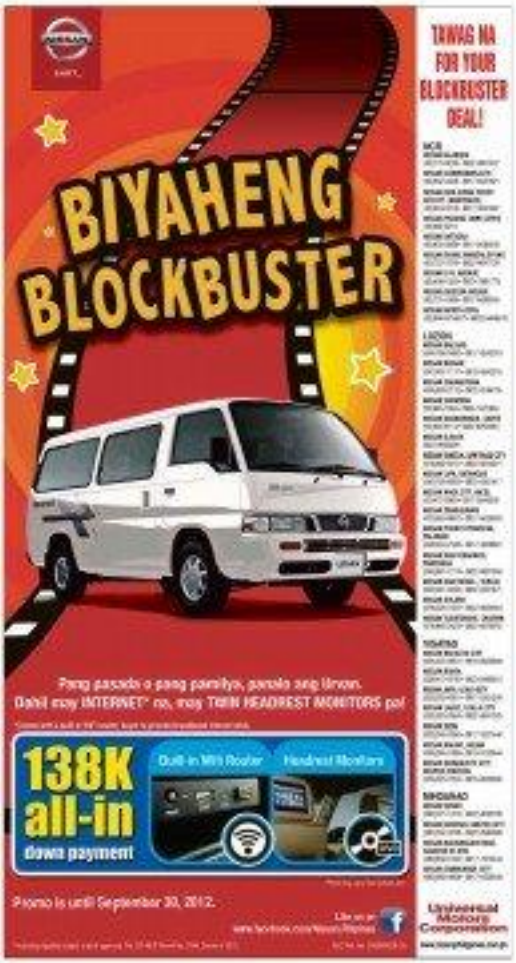
Nissan: Universal Motor Corp. turned up the heat by bringing out sexy in both cars and performance. Pole dancers clad in provocative outfits made jaws drop, especially when the new compact M/R was unveiled with the Nissan Juke was introduced. TUMC assistant vice president Hee-sprinter Lindap told the mesmerized crowd that Nissan vehicles like the Navara Tech Extreme pickup, Patrol Super Safari SUV, and the Urvan Estate van come with WiFi connectivity.

Nissan Motor Philippines, Inc. brought in elegance as six lovely models in Bayer Blancgeo red concave gowns milled around a fiery red Nissan GT-R roadster. The GT-R is designed by 34-year old Filipino Randy Rodriguez who grew up in Canada but worked for Nissan Design in San Diego, California. Rodriguez told a proud Filipino crowd how Filipino creativity and talent find their way to the design of Nissan trucks and behind sports cars.

He said he first fell in love with cars when his father, who ran a gas station and repair shop, gifted him a Datsun 2 sportscar when he was 14. His passion for cars eventually led him to Nissan Global Design where he got to sketch and design cars. NMPC president and CEO Allen Oneg presented the Nissan lineup which included the Grand Livina flagship line, the elegant Sunny sedan, the compact Almera sedan, and the X-Trail SUV. The Nissan presentation was hosted by couples personality Aladin Gonzaga-Jose.

Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge under Philippine distributor GATS Motors finally made its grand reveal with an aggressive Dodge Charger R/T Concept built by Mopar Underground. Bryan Bradley managing director for Chrysler Southeast Asia, led the Charger's Asia Pacific debut. Gregorio Yu, chairman of GATS Motors, likewise presented the Jeep Wrangler, Chrysler 300C sedan, Chrysler Town & Country minivan, and the Dodge Durango SUV—vehicles GATS Motors have been distributing since 2005.

The 4th Philippine International Motor Show edition ran from August 16 to 19 at the World Trade Center in Pasay City. drew more than 50,000 visitors, according to the organizers.



Shell Fun Rally

THE RALLY was a big success to the participants due to the unique format and challenges that were integrated to the Transport Stages and Special Stages. The consensus was very positive both to the participants and sponsors. A request for a repeat Rally was constantly asked by participants and a lot of inquiries were received by officials from the viewing public as to how they could join.

The Rally format was basically composed of numbers that challenged the participant's speed, time management, trivia intellect, familiarization of road issues and traffic rules. The rally started and finished on time (as scheduled). Officials were prompt and efficient in running the Shell Stage Games, Thunderbird Quizbiscuit and Lazerbeam Challenge. The Golf Cart Challenge was a pleasant surprise that attracted a lot of viewers because it was novel and entertainment and brought out the team's communication skills and road capacities. The Thunderbird Quizbiscuit tested the driver's patience and navigator's map reading skills as an average of 30kph only was required throughout the course.

The race had a total of seven Transport Stages, four Shell Pit stops and three Special Challenges. 175 Trivia questions and 17 Click points were given as bonuses.

I. OVER-ALL CHAMPION, BEST IN GOLF CART CHALLENGE, BEST IN GYMKHANA
CAR NO. 9 (Honda Civic)
Participants: Nino Fernandez and Migo Reyes

II. BEST IN TRIVIA
CAR NO. 11 (BMW 325i)
Participants: Paolo Campos/Gaga Francia Aguila

III. BEST IN LAZERBEAM CHALLENGE
CAR NO. 4 (Toyota MR2)
Participants: Lance B/Albert Quino

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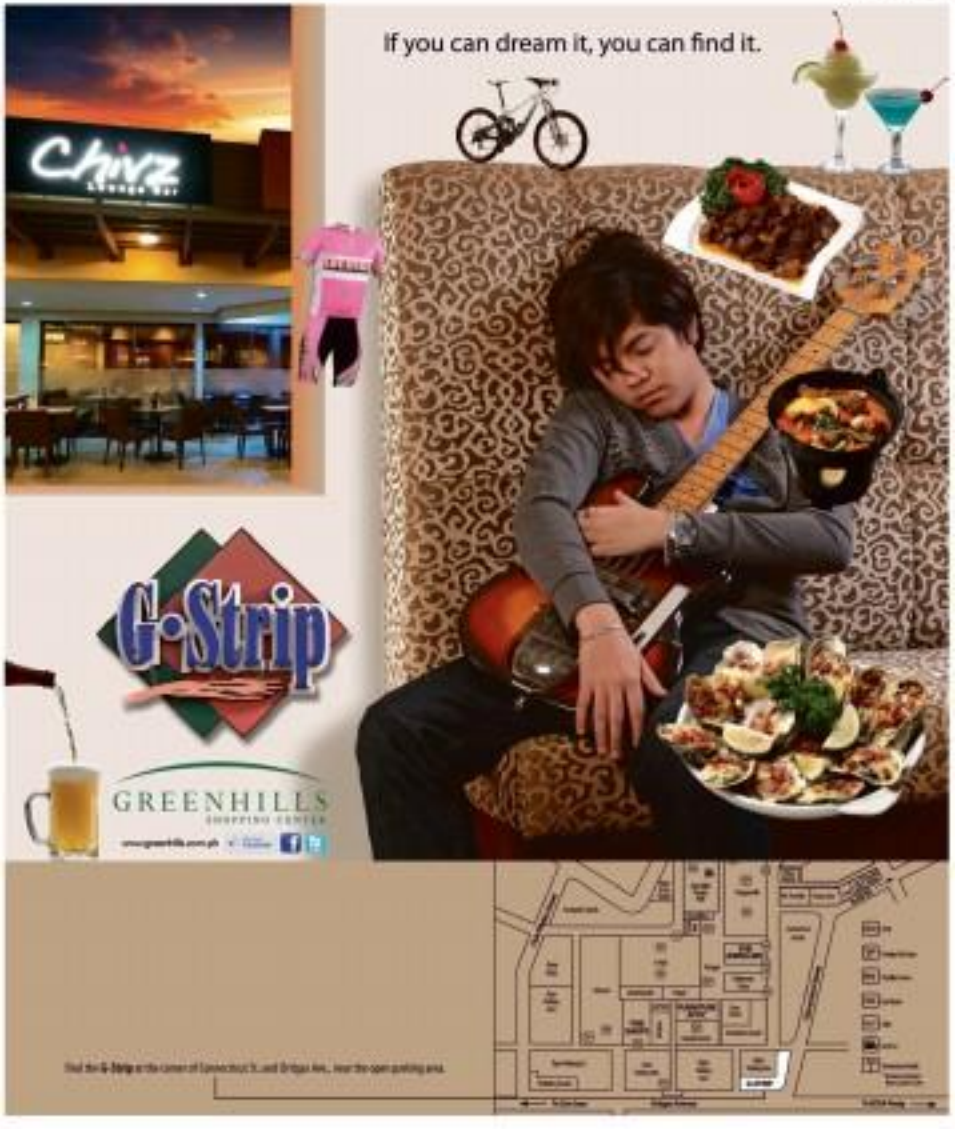
It's the season for cat-eyes!

Soft updos and smoky eyes mark the look of today's bride —if fashion designers would have their way

By Cheche F. Maral

THE CLASSIC contrast of smoky eyes and pale, nude-hued lips—and its many variations—was the key look at the Inquirer Lifestyle, Look Magazine and Samsung Pace-Off Filipino Bridal Collection 2012 last Sept. 5 at Dusit Thani Hotel.



THE MAC room interpreted the makeup looks Jing Mesa-Talon styled the hair ran-ays Grace Tagle for Joey Samson's bouffant updo on Gleelh Pasquin for Randy Ortiz; Grace Ruby-esque look on Ramon Matsunaga for Yeats Ramoll

BROWN, smoky eyes and red lips on Michela Pascmangkin for Wendy Weber-Ramos's modest 'do swept to one side on Kylie Veronica for Isabelle Zamora

ALL to fall: Footwear by Stella Luna

It's the season for cat-eyes!

From page 6-1

Eyes were smokier and surely more dramatic than what a real bride might wear on her wedding. Most of the 36 fashion designers chose to play up their model's peepers with darker eye makeup.

"Make her look like a rich Chinese" was Auggie Cordero's simple instruction to makeup artist Brad Jimenez, which got his frequent collaborator chuckling. "People [including] were leaving As Min [Bilagot, Cordero's model] that she looked Chinese, just not rich," the makeup artist said with a laugh.

Jimenez did a modified cat-eye on Bilagot, and more than a few other models also sported the same eye makeup. Cat-eye is one of the big trends for fall.

Cordero then opted for vermilion lips to top off his high-gloss romantic look in the show opener.

Others chose either nude lips or on an autumnal oil pinks, from virginal to flamenco-ness.

Bilagot sported a classic sleek high updo, on top of which sat a tiara, with a medley of feathers at the back, the same phrase that adorned Cordero's dress.

Joey Samson, known for his sharp tailoring, had model Grace Tagle strain up with strong, smoky eyes with a well-defined cat-eye and bright, matte pink lips, a counterpoint to his rather unimpressed bridal tulle dress.

Save for Samson, the MAC team led by Teddy Urquiaga and Ocampo healed incorporated all the fashion designers' makeup pegs. Jing Mesa-Talon styled the hair. The models were about in Stella Luna shoes.

All the looks sported strong, full brows, including Rajo Laurel's model, who wore dietary stylized-style makeup, to complement the designer's Japanese-inspired tailored dress. Laurel's model also wore her hair in a topknot, samurai style.

'70s disco look

Eric de los Santos, who dressed Melissa Pyne Jr. a shiny, jelly beaded silver dress, chose a modern interpretation of the '70s disco look: silvery flecks on the eyelids and pale, chalky matte lipstick on the mouth.

IT'S THE SEASON 12

RED lips with smoky eyes in Auggie Cordero's peg for Jo Ann Bilagot's makeup, is done by Noerjimenez

ACTRESS Jerri Haman, who wore Rocoddi Arrialdo's dress, did her own natural-look makeup. Her lash (below) was styled in a bold and lipstick.

OLIVIA Rodrigo wears Jo Manchulenko Night's Dream" look for joy-on-Lucha.

ORIENTAL STYLE hair and makeup for Rajo Laurel

TIARA adorned for Sesa Jimenez's model

MODEL Jimenez works on Jo Ann Bilagot

It's the season for cat-eyes!

From page C2

Fina's long hair was in a sleek ponytail.

Flinky Tanseco sleeked mod, el Michelle Hennessy's hair and in a sleek pony, creating a chaos foil in her fringy, V-neck beaded Flapper dress.

Martin Bautista chose a low side chignon with a side part on model Raine Hilomen, who also sported smoky eyes and dark wine lipstick. Hot a few of the designers chose low chignons, while others went for slightly messed-up versions of the classic updos.

Ivorbuki Aurora's model Rylie Verzosa wore her hair swept to one side on the back with cascades of soft waves framing her face. Bautista the salon's model Ana Muñoz's updo swept "do also had wavy ons, tones, dots for Ocampo Ethnics, Clara Ozaeta's model.

Antoine Larroca beauty pag called to mind "A Midsummer Night's Dream": a crown of wild flowers atop curls, many tendrils on one side.

Noel Crisostomo topped off his elegant two-piece tuxedo top and linen-cut skirt design with subdued makeup and a sleek, sultry classic headband on model Bianca Valeria.

In contrast, Randy Ortiz's model Estella Pacquiao wore her hair in a glamorous high bond, here with a sparkly band across

STYLE awardees Margie Moran-Floirendo (left) and Dr. Z Tee (right) flank Samsung head of corporate marketing Chrisyl Torres-Tan and brand Texas Valdes.

INQUIRER president and CEO Sandy Bernardino lauds Filipino designers. —PHOTOS BY ROY MABUTAS

MODEL demonstrates the core features of the Samsung Smart TV

GUEST Thani Hinds, general manager Poland/Kosovo welcomes guests.

to an one side.

Nadia Bautista, who designed a 1970s-style dress, had model Victoria Maniscalco styled like a modern-day Grace Kelly with shoulder-length hair worn in wave loose, soft waves. JC Bautista's model Jessica Yang wore a similar look.

Lulu Tan Gan was winning the hair who broke out the traditional makeup look used. Her model, Karina Cabilling, who was dressed in a Bohemian bridal look in a mix of pink and Tan-Gan's signature hair, wore pastel blue eyeshadow and bright neon melon lips. The boho look was finished off with Karina's long hair worn in loose waves, parted at the middle; she wore three strands of beaded hair accessories her head.

Tan-Gan briefly expressed dismay about the makeup, but ultimately decided the unique look might not be such a bad idea.

"Yes, I think that's all right," the designer said as she gave her model another once over. "They can't all be the same. It's good to be different."

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The Mind Museum

Savor the flavors at Rockwell's Ultimate Taste Test

ROCKWELL will host the metro's premier showcase for new-exciting food tip comings in Rockwell this September.

Power Plant Mall, Bar Restaurant Planet, and Sam Miguel Lifestyle Stores present Rockwell's Ever Ultimate Taste Test to be held at the Rockwell Terrace Sept. 15, 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Now in its 10th year, this event provides food enthusiasts all over the metro an opportunity to experience being a food critic for a day.

Watch out for participating chefs and tasters Ben Nery, Featured Bartender/Owner, Embrydo Wines; Ricardo Ribello, Ribello Ristorante; Chew Fee Ng, Modern Chinese Restaurateur, and other home-based food businesses, plus some of Power Point Mall's restaurants.

With a ticket, foodies would be provided a refurbished and a passport to enjoy a one-time sampling of items at the participating food manufacturers. In their refurbished, foodies get to rate the product on a scale of 1-5, 5 being the highest.

The Top 10 highest rating food manufacturers will be featured in Our Awesome Planet and will get prizes from Power Point Mall.

Buy your ticket at the North Court Concierge Desk, 811 Level of Power Point Mall. Tickets are sold at P1,500. Each ticket already comes with a free Sam Miguel Lifestyle Boxes set.

Visit www.facebook.com/PowerPointMall, call 896-6702 loc. 2915.

Freelance writers to hold general assembly

The Freelance Writers' Guild of the Philippines (FWGP) will hold its second general assembly on Sept. 16, 8 p.m., at the University Belt in Diliman, Quezon City.

The members will be given an overview of the local freelance writing landscape by seasoned freelance writers, representatives of client companies and current FWGP members.

Guest speakers are Celine Rivera, Maria Isa de Dios, Nonoi Hontiveros-Aris and Ben Sabal, client speakers are Cle Rodriguez of Yahoo.ph, Emmy Cezmon of freelancer.ph and Yasmin Arsadon of SMBliners TV, panel members are Beverly Go, Stephanie Gonzaga and Dino Ribarridan.

The Makers who will present reports include education, Inno Nicolasio; marketing and resource mobilization, Claire Agbayani; website and media, Ron Fajardo; and Raymond Dimayuga; membership, Tosha Enriquez; finance and ethics, Naomi Tejada.

Results of the survey on rates for freelance writers which was conducted among FWGP members will also be revealed.

The event will be moderated by Angel Cortado and Ana Andrada. Call Fatinella at 0915-358-1134 or Fupas at 09209184868.

Writing workshop for children

Creative Writing Workshop for children and young adults, eight to 13 years old will start on Sept. 22 at Whatever Times' 633 Legaspi St., Legaspi Village, Makati. Classes are divided according to age and instantly levels of participants. Call 8194008 or 8194003 or 4585478; e-mail info@whatevertimes.com.

Floral design seminar

Blooming art, a floral arrangement and demo on the latest trends in floral designing for weddings, parties, special events and everyday arrangements, will be held Sept. 11 at the Legaspi Village, 68 Polaris and Madison Streets, Mandaluyong, 1-5 p.m. Seminar is sponsored by Bulak Floral Products, Floral Ideas and Jasmin Floral Solutions.

Among the topics to be discussed are new trends in floral designing as outdoor theme or an indoor setting, latest floral arrangements, and new cutting techniques.

Eunice Tan Khee Chow will conduct the seminar workshop. She is the chief instructor and designer of Artistic Flower Designing Center, a floral business and training school in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, where she has been teaching since 1996.

She has had various floral demonstrations all over Singapore, Hong Kong, Vietnam, Thailand, Japan and now the Philippines. Call 2420664, 5960952 and 8004195.

Avon's P99 promo

The Super Value Box is available exclusively through Avon representatives nationwide. It's a stylish, comfy non-wire multi-bra with pink accents. Available in sizes 32A-38B at P99, with every P299 purchase from pages 4-23 of the Avon Book. 1-31 brochure. Visit facebook.com/AvonPhilippines; follow on Twitter @AvonPH.

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CHEVROLET

LIFESTYLE Fashion&Beauty

Filipino designers blur the line between church aisle and red carp

The Face-Off Filipino Bridal Collection 2012 delivers a style direction—remove a cape or a train, and it's a party number

By Alee Y. Vergara

BRIDAL GOWNS that were equally elegant and stylish on the aisles as they were on the red carpet

WHAT'S THE Shakey's BIG DEAL?

Filipino designers blur the line between church...

From page D1

seemed to be foremost on the minds of the fashion designers in the Face-Off Filipino Bridal Collection 2012 last Sept. 5 at the Dusit Thani Manila's grand ballroom.

Heralding the fashion show was the bridal exhibit sponsored by Champion Infinity set up in the ballroom foyer. It displayed famous wedding gowns by couturiers in the league of Rios Paredes and Jose "Pitoy" Moreno. Moreno's wedding gowns for Jinggoy Estrada and Marlyn Macapagal were on exhibit. (See related story on p.A1)

Organized by Seismon Lifestyle and look Magazine, with Instagang, the bridal collection was the biggest show of its kind this year, featuring the bridal designs of 40 designers led by veterans Auggie Cordero, Lulu Tan-Gan, Solon Hans, Philip Rodrigues, Mike de la Rosa, Rhea Ocampo, Loreto Hipolito and Gregg Gonzaga.

Joining them were younger colleagues such as Randy Ortiz, Raja Laurel, Cory Saenkaeo, Ivar Aseron, Joey Samson, Noel Crisostomo, Reinaldo Arnaldo, James Reyes, Hardy Pichay Tanyco, Rhett Eala, Jun Escario, JC Buendia, Yvonne Quisumbing, Vic Rocha, Patrick Ramon Diaz, Arey Gerardo, Oji Endaz, Totoh Nicanor and Dennis Lustico.

The new generation of designers led by Shida Calimbeg, Neejay Florencio, Jerome Lorica, and Escobar, Jovanni Sabayo Ang, Kristel Tiaki, Dino Dias, Martin Bautista, Simon Rimarimo, Nanie Bansuff and Eric de los Santos also held their own.

Crisostomo, for instance, introduced his ensemble, consisting of his signature lace-on-lace leather skirt and see-through organdy tuxedo shirt, to be worn again. Apart from adding a massive gray metallic belt, also made of organdy, he lined the

FILIPINO D4

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Filipino designers blur the line between church...

From page B3

white, skirt of true cutwork with mint green silk, in bridal color.

"I wanted something feminine, but with a mannish feel to it," he said. "My muse is Eva Rubble. The look is supposed to be light and easy for a chic, modern bride. That's why I wrote for organzas. I wanna have to wear the ensemble again and again, instead of keeping it in its box after wearing it just once."

Doing away with veils

Many of the designs also did away with veils. Reyes, channeling Audrey Hepburn in her wide-brimmed boy hat, made his model wear a feather hat of cutwork and tulle.

"I wanted a fresh and light look so I avoided the usual embellishments and created a contrasting color-blocked gown in duchesse satin," said Reyes. "I'm loving southern's current direction. It's lady-like elegance with a modern edge."

Ocampo also drew inspiration from Hepburn for what he described as a "slim, snowy" and strapless number with floral-embellishments of guipure lace and organza.

"It's the complete opposite of the headband look," he said.

Liquid drew heavily from his "sakura experience" last spring in Japan to produce a Kimono-inspired silk dress accented by a vintage obi and cord from Ilocos.

"My objective was to draw out a new perspective on bridal that's modern and fresh in my eyes," he said. "I'm really in love with Japan and all its nuances."

Barefoot beauty

Another look that could easily transition from church to ballroom was Tantoco's decorous and sequined silk number with strings of crystal beads dangling unevenly from the gown's neckline and skirt.

If you remove the belt and shorten the skirt, the look instantly harks back to the flapper dresses of the Jazz Age.

"I had a barefoot beauty in mind for the dress," said Tantoco of her champagne-colored creation.

Erwin Cordero, through his blouse-and-skirt ensemble inspired by portraits of Edwardian-era American artist John Singer Sargent, went for contrast in a white-and-pale ivory number consisting of a vintage satin skirt and jacket dress-up top embellished with beads and feathers.

"I used all sorts of feathers, from ostrich to duck, rooster to egret," he said. "The skirt is

semi-headless with a scalloped bandeau, with each panel adorned with black sequins."

Instead of a white veil, he used a black lace version worn over a black pillbox hat adorned with huge dimensions and like white feathers.

He made a number of tulle cabbage roses, and attached them underneath the skirt to serve as its peekaboo. They gave the skirt bounce, said Cordero, without making it look too stiff.

"It was easy to go over the top," he said. "When you reach a certain age, I think the main challenge for most designers is how to maintain harmonious. In my case, I just relied on my taste. Basic now. I still manage to learn something new every day."

Grecian inspiration

Rodrigues, another veteran known for his dramatic creations, produced a light and almost see-through dress made of ivory-and-beaded stretched tulle.

MORE gowns on bridal gowns on page H3

The Grecian inspiration was evident, from the draping in the floor-sweeping cape that cascaded from the model's shoulders. The designer made sure there was no defensive structure by strategically positioning the jersey material.

"I was thinking of a destination wedding for this piece," he said. "I wanted something feminine, sexy, but subtle, light, airy and easy to carry. Once you remove the cape, the gown easily transformed into a party-in number. Because of its material, it's easy to pack and requires no ironing."

In his Sarong room for Las Reinas Ming with a metallic silver number—inspired, he said, by flowers, glasses and dinner plates. The shiny sixteenth were made of metallic fabric woven sown on illusion tulle. He embellished it further with shiny crystals and stones.

Rocking tradition

Bernolf also looked tradition by eschewing white in favor of a pale blue. Gown Girl-ly inspired duchesse satin dress with a top accented with Japanese obi. Sans for a more of contemporary bride, the huge skirt was free of embellishments.

Fellow young designer Vale drew inspiration from the fact that she's getting married herself. The designer got engaged while working on her gown, a sweetheart confection of sequins, tulle and lace, adorned with pearlescent and mirrored beads.

"The wedding gowns I work on are the ones I'd be happy to wear myself," said Vale. "I think working with different materials and their strengths allows me to highlight the best features of a woman's body."

Cecilia shared Vale's simple ideas. The Cebu-based designer kept her bride's comfort in mind when she produced a sleeveless number that combined tulle and hand-pleated lace. She incorporated blush point beading on the bodice to give the dress a hint of color.

"I thought about the dress I'd want to wear if I were getting married just once," she said. "Beading and pleating by hand posed some challenges."

Ang had in mind an imaginary woman with a "strong and distinct" personality to produce a body-hugger combining leather cutouts with organdy, duchesse satin and tulle.

"He made it more feminine, I made the shirt semi-flared and gave it some sculptural details," he said.

Modern twist

Cabahug based his original inspired skirt with his signature tailored and textured top. He chose this direction as a response to today's brides.

"Many of them want their gowns to be clean, elegant and with a timeless belief," he said. "I used silk mercon lined with duchesse satin. To give it a vintage touch, I also cut out the embroidery from an old pair flowing, and appliqued it on the gown."

Another spool for a slim silhouette, as he desired inspiration from the "classic" and slim flower vase. He decided to "take a different road," he said, in his bid to provide brides something comfortable without sacrificing fashion.

"I've gained a reputation for detailed and time-free gowns," he said. "This time, I decided to celebrate the female form by creating an understated gown made of crepe and tulle."

Like Cordero, Chris Mar also channeled singer from paintings. This time, he was inspired by pre-Raphaelite images to produce a strapless column of beige and chiffon taffeta, various exposed tulle, lace and velvet ribbon.

Eternal bohemian

Set this aside, it was the eternal bohemian bride in a solemn duo mixed layered, woven and lace components. She used French lace draped over a layered piece made of linen. To give the looks a touch of uniqueness,

FILIPINO H3

IT'S COMING BACK

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2b LIFESTYLE

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Learning leadership, the Aboitiz way

'The one value we all should have is integrity'

By Jodee Zabala
Contributor

LAST AUG. 16, the best and the brightest third- and fourth-year college students from different colleges and universities went to Cebu to participate in this year's Aboitiz Future Leaders Business Summit (AFLBS).

More than 500 applications were submitted, but only 90 outstanding students made the cut. The chosen applicants consisted of honor students, organization leaders, scholars and athletes.

Already on its seventh year, the summit aimed to help shape the minds of future leaders through various talks and team-building activities spread over three days. This year's theme was "Significantly Changing My Philippines."

LEARNING 02

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Learning leadership...

From page E1

City tour

On Day One, immediately after the opening, the students were divided into 10 teams and treated to a tour of the famous landmarks of Cebu, such as the Basilica Minore del Sto. Niño and Magellan's Cross. The students learned the history of the ancestral home of the Aboitiz family, since the abode was the Ramon Aboitiz, the patriarch of the Aboitiz Group.

The students also visited the offices of the Visayan Electric Company (Veco) and Greenergy. Plus, Josh Aboitiz served in the evening, the delegates were given the opportunity to dine and mingle with company executives at the home of the Cuna Gonzalo Mansion. This was the first time the conference included a day tour in its schedule.

The second day was the start of the two-day conference as business and leadership, with top Aboitiz executives as resource speakers. They shared their knowledge and stories with the students, and, in turn, the students were given the opportunity to ask questions on matters such as business building, investing a service of culture, brand building, financial discipline and more during the event's open forum.

Gang Badoy, social activist and Rock Ed Philippines founder, was also a guest speaker. She talked about how everyone can make a significant contribution to the campaign for change and progress in the country.

Feedback

The business summit ended with a presentation prepared by the 10 groups, followed by a farewell cocktail party.

Some memorable quotes we gathered during the summit:

"The one value we all should have is integrity. It's so important, not only in business but also in our own personal lives. Always have the passion and determination to succeed, don't get discouraged, be enthusiastic, have a vision. Be curious, never stop learning."—Jon Ramon Aboitiz, Aboitiz & Co. president

"This conference is about how we can influence others to follow our vision, the mission has also taught us how to help ourselves so that we can help others by building the nation. It's the best summit I've ever been to."—Jeffrey Christian Jusay, fourth-year Accountancy student, University of Mindanao

"It's a jam-packed experience. It's not my first time to be in Cebu, but Aboitiz made me feel as if it was."—Kevin Paulo Liviara, fourth-year Business Administration student, San Beda College

"What's really great about the summit is that people from all walks of life get to share their learnings and experiences despite their diverse backgrounds. Unlike other summits that focus solely on leadership, here you get to see different perspectives."—Ramonne Abrasaldo, fifth-year Industrial Engineering student, Cebu Institute of Technology

THEMABOITIZ Future Leaders Business Summit delegates for 2012

School styles to get you going

Campus looks that range from fun basics to chic and edgy

Text by JC Montero
Student Correspondent
Sto. Nino Manila

WATCH, Casio

ACCESSORIES, Forever 21

NECKLACE and rings, thrift shop

Denise Brillantes,
St. Scholastica Manila

DENIM jacket, Topshop
top, Zara Basics floral
shirt and socks, F21; shoes,
Vans

Reca Balmeses,
St. Scholastica Manila

TOP, Forever 21; shorts, from a
Korean boutique; hat, People are
People; denim polo, Topshop;
bracelet, thrift store; Instagram
online shop's; shoes, Payless

CAP, thrift hat

ACCESSORIES, Forever 21

Jun Jun,
Asia Pacific College

BLAZER, Mabic store;
DPE shorts, Topshop

RING, SM Accessories
bought, Tagaytay gift
shop

SHOES, Converse

ACCESSORIES, Forever 21

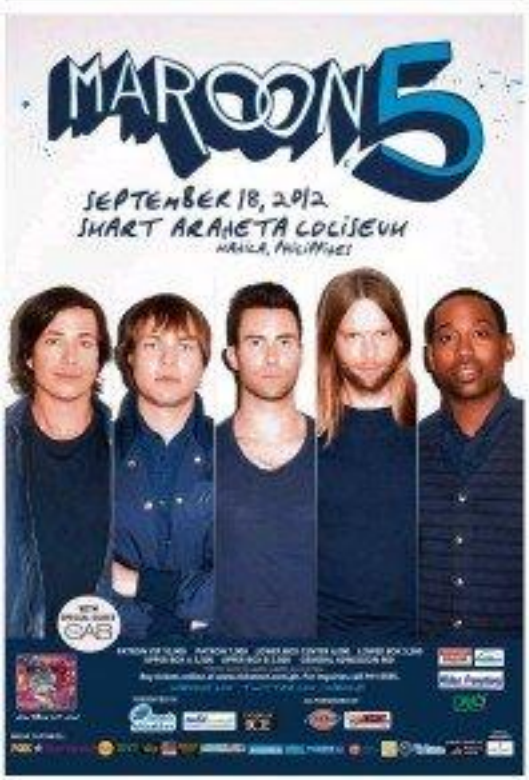
Shintaro Lopez,
Asia Pacific College

DENIM jacket, Uniqlo;
brown t-shirt, Topman

SHOES, Vans

25 YEARS IN THE MAKING
bench/
UNIVERSE
The 2012 Denim and Underwear Show
SEPT.14/6PM
MALL OF ASIA
ARENA
with special participation of
FAR EAST MOVEMENT
SHOW STARTS AT 6PM
Pedro
CHARLES & KEITH
25 bench/

It's the tote (bag) that counts



THE TOTE BAG is a hard worker—a multitasking handbag denoting the complexity of roles women play today. It is the "everything bag," with great design versatility that suits almost any woman's lifestyle.

It can carry the working woman's laptop and documents. It's for the traveler on a weekend getaway or the modern woman who must keep her cards, cosmetics and mobile phone handy.

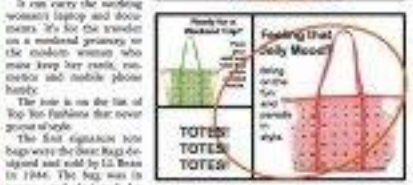
The tote is on the list of Top Ten Fashions that never goes out of style.

The first signature tote bags were the Gucci Bags designed and sold by Gi Bruno in 1944. The bag was in canvas and designed for the sailing crowd.

It quickly caught the attention of women from all over, and it was not long before handbag designers created stylish tote bags. One of the earliest was Bonnie, a popular designer of Coach. She was behind the iconic Carbin Carry tote bag that was a big trend in the '80s. In the '90s, Kate Spade started a line of totes that was truly chic and functional.

There's a good variety of totes at SM—brights, neutrals and prints in different materials—arbitic cubbies, rich patents, embossed leather, heavy canvas, foldable nylon and even jelly totes.

There are the Parisian Bags, Grab, Kimbel, Sevenseta and Bellahouta collections at the Ladies Bags Department of all SM stores.



THE TOTES are from Parisian Bags, Grab, Kimbel, Sevenseta and Bellahouta collections at the Ladies Bags Department of all SM stores.

LIFESTYLE *Fashion&Beauty*

Mikaela Lagdameo Martinez: Model/banker/entrepreneur —a stylish multitasker

NECKPIECE. Parfois printed bandeau dress. Mika's own, Topshop

THE WORKING CLASS

Rina Sibayan Go,
coordinator

MIKAELA LAGDAMEO Martinez was born beautiful. Her mesmerizing features—almond eyes, sharp nose, thin lips, narrow cheekbones and jaw line—came from a striking lineage, as both her parents, Butch Cojuangco-Lagdameo and Vicki Fernandez Zobanovic, were models.

In addition to her natural attributes, she has glowing, sun-kissed skin. "I simply love the beach, and my Sundays are reserved and reserved for golf with my husband Chichu!" she says.

Martinez's schedule is quite packed, since she holds a regular job as a money broker.

"I've always had the entrepreneurial spirit," she says. "In grade school, I was thrilled by the thought of minding my money. I would buy a jar of Jolli-O or bake cookies and sell them to my classmates for P4.50."

An avid fan of Chalk magazine when the glossy was new about a decade ago, she attended the mag's parties where she met founder Angeles, who took her photographs and sent them to an agency. She started modeling at 15, then started a clothing company (Hoop & Ivory), a magazine (Luxe), became a partner in her modeling agency (Elite) and developed a food business (Gourmet Pao)—while working behind the camera as fashion stylist.

"While delivering Gourmet Pao to the company I now work in, they asked me if I was interested in working for them!" said another job seekers.

Stepping up

Maneuvering between two careers, MIKAELA is

MUST-HAVE
SWATCH
CHRONO PLASTIC

BLACK EFFICIENCY

RED SHADOW

SILVERIN

Measure your speed.

Measure the speed (best 100 or 1000 m). Press...
1. The upper push-button when an action starts.
2. Once again to stop after a distance of 100 or 1,000 m. Read the speed indicated by the 60 seconds counter on the tachymeter scale (km/h = kph).
3. The lower push-button to reset.

The Swatch Chrono Plastic Collection comes in 10 colors at Swatch Stores and Swatch Kiosks.

swatch
CHRONO PLASTIC

NATRINA Tuason-Cruz, Boonyap and Rudy Muriel

JONATHAN Muriel, son, Teresa de Dequina Culey, Andrew Sun

SINGAPORE-BASED Kathy de Guzman, architect and interior designer Jonathan Muriel

DON PAPA Rum's Stephen Carroll

CONCHITA Rada, Marivic Vasquez, Lorrie and Cecile Espinosa, Dandy Tuason

BRUCE Caley, Frances de Guzman

HARLYN Muriel, Marivic Vasquez

JOHNNY Velasquez, Freddie Olbes, Kenzie Tuason

CHICK CHICK Bruton, Digi Djoenglie, Joel Espina, Gina Garcia

MARIFI Muriel, Carmen Lustgarten

ISABELLE Ramos, Jennifer Garcia, Jenjen Pakulan, Carlos Celdran

Philippine Volcano, Itchyworms front man, Jon Hall compete for fastest burger eater

DON PAPA Rum was launched as a tribute to the spirit of the Filipino Cuisine. For festivities, tasting, dabbings. Proudly made from my hometown—the island, would you believe?—first premium full-flavored rum to proclaim from sugar cane.

Three months before, another top achiever from Ateneo, renowned architect and interior designer Jonathan Muriel, gave an awesome dinner for one of his close pals, Kaitlyn de Guzman, who had graduated in Penn Singapore where she's based with her mega bamboo-hardwood thing de Guzman, at his gorgeous home in Makati, palanggan.

It was during Jonathan's dinner when Don Papa team really introduced to the well heeled invitees. It was served right in the middle of dinner and guests were treated to an impromptu island Don Papa founder Stephen Carroll.

"This rum is even better than other imported rums I've tasted," said another of Muriel's honorees that night, Lorrie Reynoso of the prestigious New York Restaurant School.

Other guests who are not usually rum drinkers gobbled down the smooth and coconut-brimming Don Papa Rum.

During Don Papa's formal launching at Sensista, "mixologist" Kathryn Schlenk magically concocted Raging Sexless Ex, Coco Breeze and Liquid Buttonscotch. Carlos Celdran talked about the history of the rum.

WITHOUT AN EYELASH
Maurice Arnaiche
Photos by Alex Mia Hagedorn
powered by PHOTO MAC CENTER

With trophies, certificates, beautiful manager Monica Llamas and board of operations Andrew Garcia took their well-deserved bows amid the applause of the highly spirited guests, dabbings.

Don Papa Rum is available at Aseanna, Duvil, Brew Ale, Bilibid, Rocket Room, and Ralph's Wines and Spirits.

Jollibee Champ

Conrad Beriontes was the grand winner of "Who's the Champ? The Jollibee Champ Eating Challenge," the nationwide search for "the fastest Jollibee Champ ever."

During the grand national finals at the Bo Nunez Activity Center in QC, Herrera finished a Jollibee Champ burger at an impressive 27.14 seconds, winning P50,000 cash and P5,000 worth of Jollibee gift certificates.

In second place was 27 year old Miguel Arnaiche, who finished the burger in 42.46 seconds. In third place was Kerwin Russell Jr., a former Off'al Saint Cuisto, who downed it in 44.30 seconds.

"It's great to be among the fastest Champ eaters in the country," said Herrera. "I feel honored to win the Champ belt and to contend as the best and fastest so this is the first nationwide contest, and yes, my favorite just is the 1/3 fried patty."

"Who's the Champ? The Champ Eating Challenge" was the first nationwide search for the fastest eater of Jollibee Champ, dabbings.

Also held was the Jollibee Champ celebrity challenge, where Eric Tai of the Philippine Volcanoes, Itchyworms frontman Jego Jaguerta and model-actor Jon Hall competed. Winner was the rugby player who won P50,000 cash and Jollibee gift certificates. He also won the judges' nod for "the cutest Champ eater," dabbings.

"This is a first for Jollibee and it has served me to be very successful," said Jollibee marketing manager Allison Rosanna Natividad. "We want our customers to know that Jollibee Champ is not just another gift certificate. It's also how the judges' nod for "the cutest Champ eater," dabbings.

(Jollibee Champ is at all Jollibee outlets nationwide. Call 87888 for delivery or visit www.jollibeedelivery.com.)

Amanda's baby shower

Model and television host Amanda Griffin-Jacob celebrated the upcoming arrival of her second son at The Conservatory of Peninsula Manila with her pals and family, dabbings.

Amanda's mother-in-law Rose Jacob, and sister-in-law Carmina Sanchez-Jacob hosted the fun baby shower, turning the afternoon tea happening, palanggan.

Another soon-to-be mother of two is events stylist Bambi Bermudez, and she prepped the theme The Traveling Little Man for the shower. Pint decor of globes, luggage, and various accents evoked the globetrotting theme. Adding to the grand mood were colorful flower arrangements by Gustavo Gutierrez and Bodil Kalkander of Tea.

Amanda's close pals—Bianca Elizalde, Ki Li Tellis, Mika Lagdameo-Martinez, Celine Gabriel-Lim, Joey Mendiking, Katrina Stead, Daphne Oseña-Paez and Lani Sahagun—had a blast during the party games.

Winners received products from Mustela and gift certificates from The Spa. But losers still were prizes such Jose bags with touch of Vitamin, Pilot and Tarahan Gems, and divine chocolates the Divinisada is famous of.

During Amanda's time on badges and excited that one guest said: "Relax, girl, you just might have your son come into the world with all of us around."

ERIC Tai and Jollibee mascot

ANDREW Gue, Caru Rabara, Gigi Djoenglie

ANNE Marie Baldoni, Jenny Pascual

ALFARO Perfecto, Katrina Lagman

DON PAPA Rum brand manager Monica Llamas, "mixologist" Kathryn Schlenk

FUGS legends, Jollibee marketing manager Allison Rosanna Natividad

TERRY D'Lovegrove

JOHN Hall

Mexico's Grupo ACHAI Mariachi to perform in SM

Malaysians will have the rare opportunity to enjoy authentic Mexican music and dance when the Grupo Achai mariachi ensemble performs at two SM Supermalls this September.

A joint project between the Embassy of Mexico and SM Prestige, will be performing at the Mall of Asia Music Hall on September 15, at the Block at SM City North EDSA on September 17, and at SM Megamall Event Center on September 21. All performances will be held from 7-10 PM, and are open to the public.

Grupo Achai is a set of students from the northwestern state of Sinaloa, Mexico, committed to preserving and promoting Mexican traditional musical expressions. The group was founded in 2005, by Mr. Filiberto Lopez, a former director of the prestigious Mexican Redwood Folkloric Ballet.

Consisting of a mariachi band, singers and dancers, it is composed of college students who come from different states across the Mexican Republic. The group has travelled extensively throughout Europe, Asia and Latin America, showcasing performances that highlight Mexico's rich musical tradition. These Grupo Achai's first performances in the Philippines.

Mariachi music is a regional folk style known as "Son Jalisciense" in the central western part of Mexico. It was initially performed with just string instruments and vocalists dressed in the embroidered charro outfits associated with Mexico's national identity.

Over the years, mariachi has evolved into a sophisticated musical genre that has developed a unique repertoire of Mexican folk songs, ranging from traditional rancheras, corridos and sones to boleros and huapangos. Grupo Achai's performance is one of the many events to come at SM Supermalls.

Grupo Achai, a group of students from the state of Sinaloa, Mexico, will perform traditional Mexican music and dance at two SM Supermalls in September.

Grupo Achai, which consists of a mariachi band, singers and dancers, was founded in 2005, and has travelled to neighbouring Europe and Latin America.

MAMA of the hour Amanda Griffin-Jacob, with pals Sara Ardizzi and Arianne Kaufer

JULIBEE with hosts Rizza Diaz and Rich Hemlin

CARMINA Sanchez-Jacob, Rose Jacob, Mini Kashyap

JOEY Head King

CONRAD Herrera, Jollibee Champ Eating Challenge champion

MIKAELA with husband and child

MIKAELA sports the almost no-makeup look.

BLACK dress

Mikaela Lagdameo Martinez: Model/banker/entrepreneur...

From page F1

modelling and banking, Martinez is well aware of the demands of both industries. "The one thing they both have in common is competition. You simply have to step up! There is always someone better than you in what you do, so when you have that in mind, you keep working toward improving yourself all the time."

But as her work continues to overflow over the years, Martinez remains up to speed. "Funny thing is, as soon I started a family I was driven and inspired like never before," she says.

How does this driven woman maintain her youth, spunk and class? She has the almost no-makeup look. "The less stuff I put on my face the better. I stick to the basics: cold water, cleansing oil, and moisturizer. I don't wear makeup if I don't have to."

Her mode of dressing is simple. "I always say go for classic pieces. Have trendy statement pieces come in a while to give your look a good twist. I will always choose simplicity over extravagance, because it's more powerful."

She promotes local designers, but when it comes to shoes, she leans toward Manu, Mia Alexander McQueen and Rumwinga.

Simple yet upscaled up, reserved yet sensual, classy yet down-to-earth. What a woman!

"MY SUNDAYS are sacred and reservedfor golf with my husband." Above, with husband Diosdio

LEFT, tweed blazer and shorts, Mango; heels, Mik's own; Mango; white and orange dress, Tangie necklace, Cru heels, Mika's own; Mango

Modern meets classic

ALDO'S FALL/WINTER 2012 Collection, Ring The Bell, adds a modern twist to classic styles.

A Tribe Called Chic is a spin on the craftsmanship of combining material and prints. Using western-inspired leopard prints, the look—expressed in accessories, from heels to scarves—is versatile and accessible. The boots are perfect for adventurous souls. Black, cognac and taupe spell sophistication.

The Golden Age features styles that make you nostalgic for the '20s, '30s, '40s. This season, there's a muddle of colors and styles—a mixture of suede and metallic heel and velvet with patent and MIB heel.

From mercurian, Nightingale, oxfords to slippers, all the feminine get reinvented in hip hues and modern textures. Shiny leather, canvas, PU leather and textile are excellent ways to wear the military look.

Whether you spruce up a mix of neutrals in a flash or opt for vocals and bizarre shapes, Aldo's Ring The Bell collection is about taking the wave of the past while keeping yourself stylish and current.

Visit Aldo Philippines on Facebook or www.facebook.com/AldoPhilippines.

SHINY dress does to conglomerate any gentleman's dapper call. Right, heels and sleek silhouettes in basic colors

EMMITT DEFYING steel wedges from Aldo's latest collection

CRINUTI clutch

GLAMOROUS and studded Pry suit pumps, available in black and taupe

STYLE fan adds glamorous touch to otherwise sporty attire with its concealed wedge and metallic material

YELLOW and black lace platform wedges

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2b LIFESTYLE

DIY: Contrast shorts

Make your own pair with print details—raid your mom's closet

By Janice Villamania
Contributor

ADD A LITTLE surprise—a pop of color—when you fold your shorts up. Here's how you do this. Let's keep those hands busy!

What you need:
Pair of shorts
Printed fabric (2 pieces of 4 1/2 by 25" printed fabric)
Fabric glue or thread and needle
Ruler
Scissors

The sewing materials are optional, in case the fabric glue doesn't work on the printed fabric you're using. I decided to do sidelong because I used satin as my contrast fabric. Ask your mom or household to help you in the sewing if you don't know how to.

GREEN highlights show where the glue stitches are placed.

Procedure:

1 Prepare the pair of shorts to be used. Mine is a recycled pair of jeans I decided to crop.

2 Turn the shorts inside out and, using the ruler, measure the length of hem to be folded. The folds of my shorts measured 3 inches. That's 1½ inch per fold.

A 3-inch fold should be patterned with 4½ inches of printed fabric. My printed fabric measured 4 ½ inches by 25 inches.

3 Prepare the fabric glue or the sewing kit, whichever you are using. Place the tip of the printed fabric on the inseam of your shorts as shown on image 3, and start gluing or sewing. You can simply trace the original stitches of your shorts.

4 When you're done with the inseam, bring your fabric across to the outseam and start tracing the shorts' original stitches again.

DIY-GA

FINISHED product

SHOPWISE

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SUREBUY 1L Vegetable Oil
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SHOPWISE

DIY: Contrast shorts

Pretzeage G2

5 After you're done with the runners, bring the fabric around the back of the shorts to meet the inseam you've stitched earlier. Trim the excess fabric and trace the original stitches again.

Image 5 shows six small points of stitches on the upper and lower tips on the fabric. I did that so the fabric won't get loose when the shorts are folded. Make small stitches on the backside, too.

6 Once you're done with the same procedure at the other leg, your paired up pair of shorts is done. Image 6 shows how it looks like after the gluing/stitching from the inside. Turn it out again, bring the two folds up and...there, now you have an original pair of contrast shorts!

(You can also iron each fold so it is well defined and in place.)

I suppose you can leverage, denim on plaid printed fabrics to highlight the contrast. I incur my fabric among a bunch of printed scarves in my mom's closet, so this DIY is not really handy.

You don't need a ton of money to fashion trends; just use your wit, imagination and resourcefulness. Why buy when you can DIY!

Showered with goop, rinsed with fire-truck water–how San Beda welcomes its freshmen

It's a shared experience—not an ordeal, but a rite of passage

By Jay Rivera
Correspondent
San Beda Chat 2009

MENDIOLA run

TOP: Happy while crawling in the mud. Above: Some of the activities during the integration

IT'S USUAL for schools to conduct orientation days, school tours and other activities to make incoming freshmen feel at ease in their new school.

But San Beda College has had a unique tradition of welcoming new students, called the freshmen orientation week. This activity starts with freshmen wearing Mendiola in offbeat attires or costumes. If you see a teenage guy walking around the vicinity in diapers, or a girl dressed as Indian, they're probably doing the San Beda orientation fun.

In recent years, Inside Fights have been made part of the integration activity to encourage freshman students to unite with the larger Beda community.

The highlight of the activity is the Mendiola run, where freshmen are made to undergo physical challenges while they are plentifully bombarded with flour, water, cola and other stuff by the upperclassmen. They are then asked to line up and run from the San Beda main gate to Mendiola to C. Ajuela and back to San Beda through the back gate on the 3rd street.

BEDAAN freshmen all smiles before losing "grouped"

Final leg

The activity's final leg becomes evident to the freshmen at the end of the run, when they step into the infamous Dalton Well before being played by the San Beda College Band. When the freshmen reach the designated area, they are given a ceremonial bath, signifying their baptism as true Bedanis.

All Bedans have been integrated. Do we, it's a shared experience—not an ordeal, but a rite of passage. You'd regret missing out on this activity—it's like missing your own birthday party.

When the high school department was still based in Mendiola and was still an exclusive boys' school, freshmen high school students also underwent the integration activity, and the integrators could do pretty much anything. During my time as a high school integrant, our section had a separate classroom integration with a fourth-year class. They set up an obstacle course using our old high school chairs and the teacher's table.

After we were through the course, they put powder and paint on our bodies, then we were out of the classroom to perform a short play or dance in front of the student body I remember that we were only wearing our boxer shorts!

Sense of belonging

Being integrated gives you a sense of belonging. You immediately make a lot of friends from the upperclassmen, and sharing with those who have gone through the same activity. You and your classmates will now have bonding stories to share, about how stupid you looked or how awful you cracked during the integration days.

Integration is a humbling experience, because it is an equalizer—whether you're the son of a high-ranking government official, a celebrity or a priest! others, it doesn't matter, everyone gets doused with the same goop.

The fun spirit also allows freshmen to overcome their inhibitions. They no longer need to cry and fit in, because they've been officially welcomed by the entire Beda community. San Beda is now their home.

Creativity and multi-tasking in one gadget

THE NEW Samsung Galaxy Note 10.1 is designed to encourage creativity, enable productivity and facilitate better learning.

The Galaxy Note 10.1 offers both the power and portability of a notebook PC with the creative tools used by most digital artists. It is powered by a quad-core 1.4GHz Quad core processor combined with 2GB RAM making it, to date, the only truly multi-tasking device.

Carlo Celma, Stephanie Klein-Lumandas and Sergey Flamsteed were recently introduced as the Samsung Galaxy Note 10.1 brand ambassadors.

Lumandas loves the Note's Multi Screen capability which allows a user to split the screen between different apps and programs at the same time.

Google searches can be done while one is writing reports, or images can remain open while being resolved in caricature. Pop Up Play lets one watch videos while working on other tasks on the tablet. And Smart Stay guarantees that the Galaxy Note 10.1 won't go to sleep as long as it senses the user's eyes are focused on the screen.

Flamsteed uses the Galaxy Note 10.1 for his fashion drawings. The accompanying S Pen is light and thin, pressure sensitive, and pinpoint accurate, giving him the feel and ease of a regular pen.

The S Note integrates three great features: Shape Match, Hand Match and Formula Match, ensuring that digital handwriting is as clear and precise as if it was typewritten on paper. S Note also offers the complete digital publishing experience, with pre-made templates or one created by the user.

Artist Carlo Celma finds the Galaxy Note 10.1 very useful because it's equipped with Adobe Photoshop Touch, the industry standard in digital image creation.

It also comes with the cloud storage of Drop Box, up to 50GB of online storage which is easily shared with others.

With AllShare Play & Cast, users can send or stream images, music, and videos to other tablets, laptops and TVs.

The Galaxy Note 10.1 has a 10.1-inch screen with crystal clear 1080p Full HD Playback and with connectivity features such as an ultra-fast HSPA+ 42 as speed and Wi-Fi Channel Bonding technology (which allows for double Wi-Fi speeds), going online has never been faster.

Other notable personalities who attended the Galaxy Note 10.1 media launch were Phil and James Youngblood, Nicko Pandan, CNN Hero of the Year 2009 Efren Penaflorida, Jenika Ejercito, Toni Madrigal and Baby Francez and Atticus King.

MIA Bayuga, Lia Cruz

ATTICUS King

CARLO Ojeda

SAMSUNG Galaxy Note 10.1

PHILIPPINE Jackals' Phil and James Youngblood with Samsung mobile business advisor Mike Chacon (center)

NICK Ocampo

SAMSUNG Mobile product leader Stephanie Cruz; Samsung Samsung Galaxy Note 10.1 ambassadors Pinoy Flamsteed, Carlo Celma and Stephanie Klein-Lumandas; Samsung Mobile business unit head Bloggy Mauricio; Samsung Mobile product marketing head Cara Domingo

FAN MESSAGES

FAMILY takes souvenir shots of their "Phantom" experience

Even teens will fall for 'The Phantom of the Opera'

Why this Broadway classic is a great intro to musical theater for the young crowd

By Angelica Y. Yang
Student contributor
Immaculate Conception Academy

FINALLY! I got to see "Phantom" in Manila!

"IF YOU HEED me," says Monsieur Lefèvre, addressing the new owners of the Opera Populaire in Paris, "I shall be in Box Five."

The audience at CCP's Main Theatre broke out in laughter as they realized Monsieur Lefèvre had really uttered, "Botcha," replacing "Frankfurt" in the original script of the Peter Ind classic, "The Phantom of the Opera."

It was only at that moment that I came to my senses and got transported back to Manila, right inside the Cultural Center of the Philippines, straight from 19th-century Paris, the setting of this stage musical, which is beautiful soprano, Christine Daaé, becomes the obsession of a mysterious, disfigured musical genius.

"Phantom" is celebrating its 26th year and is now the second longest-running London West End show ever, as well as the longest-running show on Broadway in New York.

But how come none of my teen friends are going gaga over it, or know much about it?

"What's that?" one roared when I excitedly shared how my parents got my sister and me tickets to a Saturday family matinee last Sept. 1.

"Isn't that scary?" commented another friend of mine.

Most of those I know are only aware that "Phantom" is in town through their parents.

So why should teens know about "Phantom?" Well, take it from another teen—it is not a ghost story. It is not scary, though it's a dark story that involves scenes of the obsession of a musical genius, who refers to himself as "O.G." or Opera Ghost in correspondences with the main characters.

Love story

"Phantom" is, above all, a love story. The Phantom teaches Christine how to sing and helps her make his song "Wake Digital," while Christine reminds the Phantom the "Angel" that her father had always told her would come to help her. It all gets nasty only when another gentleman, Raoul, comes in to the scene and disturbs the Phantom's tune with Christine. Christine then discovers the Phantom isn't just there to teach her, but to possess her forever.

It is this love triangle that I believe teens would more relate to. Who wouldn't feel for Raoul, who falls head over heels in love with Christine as soon as he hears her sing an angelic "Think of Me?" And who wouldn't feel for the moment when Christine is torn between Raoul and the Phantom, and can't decide between the two?

For aside the production is something teens will appreciate. The magnificent chandelier, hands down, the centerpiece of all the props, located in the third row, center aisle from the stage, I was right there beneath all the action when the chandelier came crashing down at the end of Act I.

Breathtaking scene

The CCP's main theatre did not inhibit the stage designers from creating an illusion of depth, as when the Phantom led Christine by the hand to where he lived, down below the theater. They walked across what appeared to be a slanted path, way high above and across the stage. That pathway, or platform, slowly tilted from one end to another as it descended and descended, making it appear as if the characters were walking lower and lower.

Raoul later descended on his own in search of the Phantom and Christine, came to the edge of that platform and literally jumped! He did not hear a thud (thank goodness), for those in the audience knew he landed in the imaginary waves of the lake beneath the opera house, which led to the underground labyrinth where the Phantom lived.

And when the Phantom emerged with Christine on a boat, gliding on a mist on stage, the scene simply took my breath away! A few minutes later, the Phantom appeared from behind one of the giant pillars majestically above the stage to deliver his angry lines as he looked down straight at the audience, blown, appearance and power over all or grand display.

Yet all this spectacle would not have worked had it not been for the chemistry the Phantom and Christine shared when they sang "The Phantom of the Opera" together. Christine looked entranced as the Phantom beckoned her to "Sing for me!" with hand gestures so expressive I can't forget them. I think those were the most expressive hands I've ever seen on a musical stage! Because the Phantom had half his face covered for the most part, his body expressions became key to his role.

Dark and unconventional

Thanks to my parents, I have been watching musicals here and abroad since I was four years old. I've seen "The Lion King," "Miss Saigon," "Wicked," "Mamma Mia," "The Sound of Music," "The King and I" and "My Fair Lady." Each of those musicals portrays the beauty and humor of life. "The Phantom of the Opera" is a notch above them, not only because of its complex storyline, but also because of the serious, haunting and quite, literally, musicals are happy-go-lucky and colorful, but this one is dark and unconventional.

"The Phantom of the Opera" is not an extended love song you'd avoid the end of the month, but rather an exhilarating Monsieur Lefèvre, everybody in the show who worked hard to bring this extraordinary musical to life deserves just one thing after the final curtain call: a vacation in beautiful Botswana!

Mila's tokwa't baboy in Pampanga has the best 'sisig'–and Mila, by the way, is my 'lola'

KC Montero, Jon Santos, Joy Viado and chef Gene Gonzales have all dropped by to get a taste of this dish

By Julie Ann E. Gomez,
Student contributor,
University of the Philippines Manila

WHEN I WAS younger, I thought the only sisig that existed was that which my grandparents cooked. But now that I'm a college student in Manila, I've realized that this signature Kapampangan dish I have loved since childhood comes in various kinds. Some of these I have tasted, including a mouthwatering pork sisig with mayonnaise as the main dressing, sprinkled with onions and green chili peppers. Other versions are topped with egg or crushed chicharon.

But despite these different versions, my heart and my taste buds still long for the best sisig ever—my older cousin-in-law's sisig at Mila's Tokwa't Baboy.

This humble eatery started in 1986, from the original sari-sari store managed by my grandparents, Milagros Gomez and Ruben Gomez. Customers often asked if they had available pulutan to accompany their drinks.

One time, Ito Mergina, a Chinese-Australian store in front of my grandfather, stayed with us for vacation and heard what the customers wanted. Since she had run a restaurant in Hawaii and Hong Kong, she gladly shared the recipe of her own pulutan, which was composed of tofu with soy sauce.

When my Lolo Ben followed this recipe, he spent around P300 just for one serving. So he experimented with more visible ingredients, and he and my grandfather began serving their version of the dish to customers.

Secret ingredients

It started with four people a day enjoying the dish; the next thing they knew, dozens of people were waiting for it. The recipe of deliciously fried tofu, homemade soy sauce, chunks of celery stalks and chopped pig's ears was then named after my grandmother's nickname, Mila. And that's how Mila's Tokwa't Baboy was born.

Despite the name of the eatery, my grandparents also whipped up their own version of sizzling sisig. Pork meat was boiled first, then deep-fried until toasted. Afterward, it was chopped, seasoned with secret ingredients and finally served on a hot sizzling plate.

My grandparents' sisig also became a huge hit. Many customers say the P200 serving of it is "sulit na sulit." Through word of mouth, our simple eatery became well-known even outside Pampanga. Celebrities such as KC Concepcion, Blake "Paleo" Garza, Jon Santos, Joy Viado and chef Gene Gonzales have dropped by to have a taste of this sisig.

Beyond sisig

Aside from the sisig and tokwa't baboy, my grandparents' eatery eventually began serving other home dishes such as Pako Salad (fern) with tomatoes and onions, relished with salted egg and homemade vinaigrette; Chicharon Bulaklak (pork leathercase grilled pork tocino); Plain Sisig (chopped pig's ears in a balsamic sauce) and Tokwa Baboy (designer in Kapampangan).

Those craving for these Kapampangan delicacies need only travel one to two hours from Manila to Angeles, Pampanga. To get to Mila's Tokwa't Baboy, take the West road going to Pampanga and exit at McArthur Highway. Along McArthur Highway (the highway passing through Angeles and San Fernando), you will see a Honda Motorcycle store. Beside it is an arch that reads Sisig Ilocandia.

Some close sisters and some right at the very end. Congratulations! You have now reached Mila's Tokwa't Baboy...where the best sisig ever can be had.

What's Up

Guntinpala Theater's 'Si Jack at ang Malinawgang Beanstalk' goes on tour

GINTO IMPALA THEATER presents "Si Jack at ang Malinawgang Beanstalk," an original Filipino children's musical with book and libretto by J. Dennis Teodosio and music by Ric Monsod, under the direction of Jonas Jeffrey Camudlag and Brian Albert de Leon.

Jack (Lindy Mamuyac) is now a young man who believes in the power of his dreams. With his best friend Pay (Abner Delos Jr.), Jack goes up to the palace on the sky through the gigantic beanstalk to reclaim his family's treasures from the monstrous Blunderbeast (Ric Pontemayor).

Performances are on Sept. 13-15 at the Olongapo Convention Center (call Nonoy Enriquez at 0908-8936826). The production will go on tour on November in Batangas and Lipa City (Rodel Rosario, 0906-3213864), and Bataan (Jeffrey Mercado, 0919-4589625).

It will be staged on Dec. 6, 8 in ARP Theater Dec. 13-15 in Star Theater, and Jan. 18-19 in SM Southmall Cinema 3 (Glenda Aguinaldo, 9999000).

Call 0927-3917613 for ticket inquiries, and visit www.facebook.com/gintinpala.

LIFESTYLE Fashion&Beauty

FACE-OFF'S "Filipino Bridal Heritage Exhibit" is on its last day today at the Power Plant Mall's North Court, Rockwell. At the entrance is a gown designed by Salvador Lim Higgins for 1974 shoot with supermodel Anna Bayle. PHOTOS BY JOSE HONASAN

Famous wedding gowns on exhibit

They take viewers back to yesterday's high-profile weddings

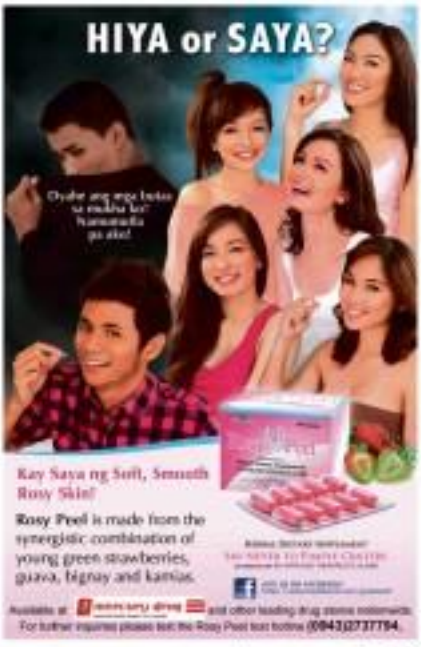
LAST WEEK'S Face-Off Filipino Bridal Collection 2012 was as much a look at brides of the future as it was a glimpse of brides from the past.

In the event's "Filipino Bridal Heritage Exhibit" sponsored by Champion lifting today's brides and fashion watchers tour not only how rich the country's bridal design heritage was, through several wedding gowns worn by such prominent personalities as actress Susan Roces, singer Anna Degi and model Rina Mumangal. They also witnessed Filipino creativity in the handiwork of such masters as Jose "Pitoy" Moreno, Ben Herrera, Noli Hans, Philip Rodriguez, Mike dela Rosa and Auggie Cordero.

The ongoing exhibit is on its last day today at Power Plant Mall at Rockwell, where it moved from Ayala Triangle Gardens, Ayala Avenue, Makati City, last week. The Face-Off fashion show was held at Trinoma last Sept. 5.) The Rockwell exhibit also displays the flower arrangements and table setting of event organizer Jo Gamboa.

Added at the Rockwell exhibit were two iconic gowns designed by the trailblazing designer, Salvador Lim Higgins, the founder of Manila Fashion School. One gown was designed for a 1974 shoot of supermodel Anna Bayle—a white draped jersey. The other gown was for a show in the Middle East—an Arabian-inspired draped gown in gold charmeuse.

The Rockwell exhibit also features bridal gowns by younger designers in Gamboa's stable.



BLACK veil
Ivanovska
Rustan's Ilesa

BUSINESSMAN Johnny Holden escorts Virgia Moreno to the stage to receive the bouquet as her brother Pinoy Moreno's cohost George, PDI president and CEO Randy Ronquillo, congressman Ben Furnaris

DESIGNER Ben Furnaris with Miss Universe Philippines Shamcey Supsup and Miss Philippines Earth Mariel Pamintuan

A black veil for your wedding?

By Sue Calma
Contributor

Why not, as Rustan's presents stunning hand-embroidered lace 'mantilla' from Spain

AT Inayawan Lifestyle's "Face-Off 2012," Rustan's made a bold pronouncement on the runway with the dramatic unveiling of stunning black Spanish bridal mantilla made of exquisite hand-embroidered lace.

Historically, black veils were the prerogative of royalty, since colored dyes, especially black, were hard to acquire. Royalty would show their wealth through the use of special dyes. It was only in the 19th century after Queen Victoria's marriage to Albert of Saxe-Coburg, that wearing white became the vogue; she donned an immaculate white satin and lace dress. Soon, brides followed the Queen's rebellious precedence, it became almost unusual to see brides sporting black.

Through the years, we have seen the veil's evolution, from the extravagant veils of the '40s adorned with jewels and crystals, to the '50s "Harem child" look and the '90s era, when veils were fastened with tiaras and jeweled combs.

Luminous black veils may be a more chic option these days. A black veil ensures a beautiful contrast against an ethereal white or ivory wedding gown. Check out these beautiful bridal masterpieces at Rustan's, which carries Spanish veils from prestigious brands like Valmi, makers of the finest lace since 1817. Rustan's has a wide selection of traditional bridal veils to choose from.

THE EXHIBIT features gowns by JC Buenaflo, Miss de la Rosa, Randy Ortiz.

WEDDING gowns by Ben Furnaris (far left and center) and by Pinoy Moreno are on exhibit at Power Plant Mall. Those by Moreno were worn by Susan Roces and Marian Rivera.

Famous wedding gowns on exhibit

From page H1

appears made on Randy Ortiz, Rhett Eala and JC Buenaflo.

Some of the gowns, like those of Sunshine and Monroe, had been featured in bridal shows. The rest of the pieces were worn by real brides, including Bianca Stanislaw for Eala; Angela Poblador for Buenaflo; Monteagudo for Randy Ortiz; Katherine Klaire dela Rosa (Gretchen Ho Miki-chin Rosa); and Regina Rodriguez.

Moreno displayed the wedding gowns of Sheen and Maribel Jalandoni Monteagudo. The two designer couldn't have been more opposite in their styles.

Romance written all over it

While Sheen' gown was a partially beaded minimalistic number with a Spanish mantilla-inspired veil of French lace that doubled as a train, Monteagudo's gown had romance written all over it, with its floral motifs and embellishment of pearls and sequins.

Ortiz's piece for Monteagudo was a classic—a ball gown with a Chantilly lace bodice embellished with semi-embossed and embroidered flowers. It came with a layered and draped bell-line skirt in tulle, and was also adorned with semi-embossed flowers.

Cordero's piece was made of silk linen with a two-tone effect, lace in various shades of silver and gray. The skirt had a semi-bustline silhouette, taffeta-lined bustle train and petticoat with black lace.

For Puyo, Rodriguez fashioned a 1920s-inspired number with a sequin-lace silhouette made of fully beaded Chantilly lace with a detachable beaded tulle under-blouse and taffeta train.

The exhibit also has its share of iconic pieces, such as Pam Ines' sampaguita-inspired pifia gown with a visible petticoat adorned with cultured, hand-embroidered pearls. When the veteran designer presented the gown in a dress here and abroad, he embellished the look with dramas and dazzles of delicate white flowers strung together and cascading from the model's garland.

To give visitors an idea how the brides looked during their special day, organizers also added sepia-toned photos of them in their bridal regalia. Guests, for instance, saw a young Roces exchanging wedding vows with the late actor Fernando Poe Jr. one fine day in 1968.

Also T. Iringan

Filipino designers blur the line between...

CLOCKWISE from top right: JC Buendia, Maggie Cordero, Patricia Ramon-Chan, DJ Hahn

From page B4

the model wore a polka bolero.

Only Cebu-based Cary Santiago went all out. Filipiniana with a corduroy satin, serpentine-shaped (twice embellished with pieces of lace unsurprisingly cut and motivo) is made fusing.

"I wanted the gown to look classic as well as visual," he said. "I believe I was able to achieve this by using various patterns of lace."

While Luis and Aurora drew from their respective strengths as designers, Santiago, known for his tailored and structured pieces, went the opposite way by working on an unlikely material such as tulle.

"I wanted something very sporty, unusual and romantic," Santiago said. "This time, I wanted to show something that's soft, airy and floaty. To achieve this, I used a little over 100 yards of silk tulle with a great deal of detail."

Tulle again reunited in hand-painting, but went more minimalist by allowing the painting to speak for itself. He also discovered that painting on a fully constructed Mikado silk gown was a painstaking process that allowed him almost no room for error.

"I had to be patient and wait for the paint to dry before painting on more layers," he said. "It took me a week to paint it completely. The most difficult part was restraining myself once I wanted to make the gown as minimalist as possible."

Aurora also went the minimal and modern route by taking inspiration from a stack of ladders to produce a pleated number with a floor-sweeping lace skirt. The challenge, he said, was to still make it look feminine.

Romantic numbers

Rarha also went minimalist in his take on classic wedding gowns with a "princess silhouette" using Mikado silk and beaded lace. Except for a big, beaded bow on the back and triangular details below the shoulders, the gown was devoid of frou-frou.

Hahn took a different front of Elephant for his minimalist monochrome shirt and A-line skirt combination, which he described as his homage to slolly Golightly References to Chanel, Stoneh swirland multi-top shirt and short ensemble weren't lost on us.

"A bride should be most comfortable on her wedding day," said Hahn. "Women shouldn't be encumbered with too much frou-frou."

Speaking of classic, the show also had its share of contemporary numbers from such designers as De la Rosa, (Poster) Dina, Louis, Cisneros, Lorica, Buenda and Arnaldo, as well as classic-leg, tiered and layered dresses by Tocarin, Florenza, Stephen and Hanna.

Dr. in Bruno was inspired by 1950s Hollywood as envisioned by such fashion parlor in Edith Head—a dramatic and floral number combining various materials: silk chiffon for the top and silk charmeuse for the skirt. He embellished it at the waist with a series of bows of folds and organza.

Dina, who has been on a year-long sabbatical from made-to-order, was inspired by "vertical gardens," to produce a strapless A-line made mainly of synthetic fine mesh.

She scrutinized her work a study in manipulating materials, with hand-sewn, lace-like details gathered around the hips and lower bodice.

"I chose this direction because I'm not really cast in self-or imposes any bride," she said. "I just wanted to play and have fun by touching and manipulating the material without overwhelming the concept."

Postwar English bride

Lustico went '50s retro, complete with long white gloves and vintage-like headwork, with his vision of a postwar English bride. The idea, he said, came to him while reading the biography of Diana Michael Bisbey.

"My mom and I used silk gazar for the inner dress, which are more embellished with Mikado shaped crystals to show the mom's favorite flowers," he said. "Then we created an over sheath of illusion tulle that draped the bodice."

Cisneros was also inspired by old Hollywood glamour, which he updated by opting for a shorter veil and more contemporary headwork. He was drawn, he said, to the movement and swish of silk taffeta combined with stretch tulle.

"I wanted to create a bygone era for today's brides," he said. "I want them to experience the legacy of vintage Hollywood, combined with a modern sensibility."

Lorica, who first became known as a menswear designer, also chose the romantic route in a slim gown inspired by Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

Tan-Gabuyaran outlined motifs to the bodice, consisted of scattered lace and crystals. The rest of the gown was fashioned from cotton lace with silver lurex thread for sheen.

An Ise as Bumalia is unconfined, romantic doesn't always mean frilly and complicated. Known for his tailored and minimalist aesthetics, the designer produced another clean, classic number with a halterneckline and low V back made of silk gazar. A stand bow held the two back straps together.

Arnaldo also balanced the bride's modesty off her "instinct femininity" on her wedding day. To achieve that, he produced a sleeveless floral-printed wedding gown with a translucent tent like overlay that doubled as train.

Photorealistic also guided him, since underneath the overlay was the actual gown, a bustier that could be worn by itself. The ensemble was made primarily of printed organdy and tulle.

"That's why I put my structural aesthetics on top this time, and instead focused on the soft-to-side of deconstructing," he said. "My muse and model is actress Ann Hidalgo. I find her a fresh and perfect bride."

Geometric patterns

Rosario played with textures and embroidery on a classic theme with a serpentine silhouette in nude and cream. Apart from aesthetics, he also considered giving the bride her money's worth.

"I wanted to do something every bride can relate to," said Rosario. "I didn't want to give her another showpiece that didn't end up keeping in storage."

Hans had a bride in her early 20s in mind for his short-cropping dress with a slim, strapless bodice and huge skirt. He did away with beadwork, and instead embellished the skirt with strips of illusion tulle in geometric patterns.

"I used 150 yards of fine illusion tulle for the skirt," he said. "It's a simple look, but imaginary young bride's sweet dream. I recommended the French face on the veil."

Finally, Florenza, one of the best talents of his generation, also went the other way by going maximal with exaggerated voodo. Inspired by 1940s glamour, the extra number he created was huge, ruffled and flared, but somehow managed to look light, easy and tidy.

"I wanted to achieve a soft, classical and elegant look," said Florenza. "To enliven my statues, I used such materials as soft tulle for the skirt and duchesse satin for the bodice, which also had a sheer beaded neckline. The bucket part was creating something that would stand out, and, at the same time, speak of my aesthetic as a designer."

Visit the author's blog at shaynepics.com/jones.com.

Ferragamo memorabilia on show in Greenbelt 4

TO CELEBRATE MORE than 80 years of quality craftsmanship, the Florentine label Salvatore Ferragamo brings to Manila a replica of its iconic wedge—one of the most famous fashion inventions of the 1930s. The memorabilia is displayed at the Greenbelt 4 lobby for the whole month of September.

Starting out as the cork wedge, this most recognizable Ferragamo symbol has garnered a number of new models over the years, continuously evolving from its original incarnation—four of replacing the steel plate Ferragamo had patented in the 1920s to support the arch of the foot.

"I started working with bits of leather on cork," senior fabricator, "pressing it, gluing it, fixing and finishing it till the space between sole and heel was filled up."

This was the birth of the wedge. The fruitions Vincenzo di Modena had the honor of launching the first pair. Within a few weeks, it became Salvatore Ferragamo's most popular model. The wedge enabled the creativity of an artist like Ferragamo to express itself on surfaces more ample than those of slippers and heels alone.

He experimented with many variants on the wedge, both platform and heel, with layers pressed and moulded, sculpted and painted, decorated with bits of mirror glass like an antique mosaic or with floats patterned brass latticework spattered with cloisté. Such creations had more in common with contemporary design or architecture, such as that of the Chrysler Building in New York, than with the fashion accessories of the moment.

The art of shoemaking remains a core identity of the brand. The principles guiding the company right from its start are handed down from generation to generation by the production departments, which is trained in-house. From size and fit, shape, material and design to workmanship, the company has managed to maintain all technical principles inherited from its founders.

Quality workmanship and materials, attention to form and fit are still the hallmarks of the brand. The creation of shapes is a result of many days of solitude, time for each new line. Salvatore Ferragamo men early the finest leathers. The material guarantees flexibility and resistance and ensures comfort for the entire life of the shoe.

In Salvatore construction, the arch plays a very important part. Salvatore Ferragamo has always made shoes with a stable arch, internally supported by a high-quality steel reinforcement. Each pair of shoes requires 16 discrete make, five of them spent in hand.

The production cycle consists of 134 stages, controlled and directed by specialized personnel. Many parts of the production process are still done by hand, such as modeling, leather cutting and shoe mounting and joining.

Since the 1930s, Salvatore Ferragamo has been an international leader in women's footwear design and production due to its fine craftsmanship. Shoppers will get the chance to appreciate more and understand how each pair of shoe is carefully created through an exclusive demonstration by an Italian craftsman in the Salvatore Ferragamo Store in Greenbelt 4.

Today Salvatore Ferragamo continues to lead in the world of shoe making, producing iconic designs for women all over the world.

Salvatore Ferragamo is exclusively distributed by Rustan's Specialties Inc. and is at Rustan's Shoemart (Store Mall), Greenbelt 4, Rustan's Ilocos, Rustan's Makati, Alabang Town Center and Rustan's Ayala Cebu.

REPLICA of the iconic Ferragamo wedge, one of the most famous fashion inventions of the 1930s

LIFESTYLE Fashion&Beauty

TRICKS OF THE TRADE

Kelly Misa

Bridal makeup trends at Face-Off 2012

I'M GETTING married soon, and I still haven't decided on my makeup. What are the latest trends I can follow?

When it comes to weddings, the only requirement is that the bride should look fresh and beautiful. Trends may come and go, but it is usually the tried-and-tested looks that endure as brides seek to look their best on their big day.

Just like wedding gowns, where the most popular designs are still the classic and the traditional, makeup remains conventional, romantic and radiant. If you think about it, we may already have bridal makeup down to a tee. What we usually see on the

MINORI A

MODELS AT FACE-OFF 2012. Makeup trends: red lipstick, smoky eyes, luminous skin and defined cheekbones

Hey thirtysomething woman, how's your skin these days?

By now, you're tired of late nights and had your share of "I'll never do that again!" moments. But guess what, your Twenties called, and they've come to collect. Hello, dark undereye circles, hello crow's feet and fine lines. Are you just gonna let them stay without putting up a fight?

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SHERMAN'S LAGOON — BY JIM TOOMEY

DUSTIN — BY STEVE KELLEY AND JEFF PARKER

TULDOK — BY VIANA COLL

SUDOKU

BY FRANCES DRAKE

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. Tips and progress at www.sudoku.com

	6	5				1	2	
7								4
2			1		8			9
		2		1		9		
		7		6		3		
1			7		4			3
6								1
	5	3				8	7	

Difficulty level ★★★★

Answer to previous puzzle

2	8	9	4	3	5	1	6	7
4	5	6	2	1	7	8	3	9
3	7	1	8	6	9	4	5	2
5	9	7	6	4	2	3	1	8
6	1	4	3	5	8	7	9	2
8	3	2	9	7	1	6	4	5
9	4	8	5	2	3	1	7	6
1	6	5	7	9	4	2	8	3
7	2	3	1	8	6	9	4	5

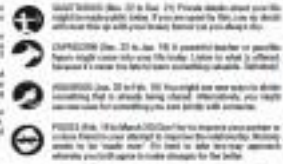
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1 Shade tree
6 Rivers
11 Bulbs
14 Cut short
15 In the know
16 Gender
17 Homecoming
18 Primate enclosure
19 Item on a list
20 Cathedral city
22 Cousin of Beauregard
23 Fern-bearing landforms
24 Rhett's portrayer
25 Gift for Child's Day
27 Bread
28 Jim Brown's card
29 Castle TV series
31 Grieving
32 Bridge with 13 ballpark
36 Like prints
37 Baby opposites
38 Weapon
39 Dominoes
40 Digital signature
41 Pro's opposite
42 Bachelor Bonaparte
43 Physique
44 Knock or Candy
46 Slow movements
48 Bird's beak
49 Schoolboys' pick
51 Ice skate
52 Bungle
53 Dumbbell
55 "Won't you please?"
56 Stone used to set
early valves
58 College boy's
59 Beat to a pulp
60 Identical
61 Rubbish
62 Hindu god
63 Words for "Deep!"
64 Medicine wheels
65 Regulation

DOWN

1 Filling
2 Attend a meeting
3 Little Rascals character
4 Jewish month
5 Genetic blueprint words
6 Eastern garb
7 Wrapped
8 Weddings
9 Plant pollen
10 Zone
11 Pitcher's stat
12 Pieces on PCB's image
13 Motorcycle's wheels
14 Last qualifying spot
15 Actor Wray
16 Perceived fear
17 Old Rod
21 Mount Hermodsweid
bridge
24 Jim and family
26 Dark stain
27 Civil wedding
29 Knot
30 Quick look
31 Sewing machine
33 Assembly workers
34 Alias
35 Like February's
temperatures on
any other month
40 Recommended flights
42 Corrosive
43 Assesses



Casual chic makeup for work–and after

By Anne Go-Chia
Contributor

LINGERING YOUR makeup routine an enormous difference in your overall appearance. If your office has a dress code, leaving you little leeway when it comes to fashionable dressing, opt for good makeup instead to enhance your look. Here are some new makeup trends to try.

Mars Fall 2012

The Mars Fall '12 campaign, embodied by Kristen McMenamy, is chic but easy to wear. The Mars Multiple in Endless Me is a versatile yet sexy nude pink with a silver shimmer, to give your skin that radiant glow. This is a handy and useful tool you can wear daily on your cheeks and lips for easy and natural hues.

Laura Mercier Eye Shadow Trio in Deep Teal

Laura Mercier Fall 2012

Hollywood stars of the late 1940s inspired Laura Mercier's fall '12 collection. Greens best to all about classy sophistication expressed in extremely distinctive hues and tints. My favorites are the teal color liner and the limited-edition long-lash mascara in burgundy. These chic colors are striking enough to be worn alone, but when matched with a modern ensemble, they are certain to make you stand out.

MAC Fall 2012

The MAC Career Essential collection highlights flawless skin and dramatic eyes. The lipstick in Tropical Mist is a nude color that would complement any skin tone, while the limited-edition eye and cheek compact collection has exquisitely intensified shades for our eyelashes and face bronzers. Having a multipurpose compact in your bag is always a lifesaver.

What fashion photographer Paolo Pineda has learned from the beauty experts

WHETHER YOU know it or not, you've likely seen the work of fashion photographer Paolo Pineda in a magazine, billboard or advertisement.

Having worked with design directors, models, hair stylists and makeup artists, Pineda has picked up more than a few tricks from these style-makers. I asked him to give me a hint on his interests, the women he likes to shoot, and some tips he's picked up along the way.

(Transcribed to protect photographer's privacy because ... I wanted to respect him.

My favorite subject to shoot are... my moms.

The most beautiful subject I've shot is... Jenny Beckett.

In my pouch, when I wanted to ask one of the models out ... I never used pick-up lines. I just asked them out.

My current creative outlet is... drawing and filmmaking.

My favorite words during photo shoots are... "It's a wrap."

The hardest thing I had to shoot was... myself.

The craziest shoot I had to do was... travel to three countries in one day to shoot one campaign.

If I had to choose between a Mac or PC, I'd work with a... Mac. Because the Apple logo looks cooler than the Windows logo. Mac is just very intuitive and stable for editing photos or films.

The three things I never, I mean never in my career, denounce my life the past 10 years for my photo diary book project, work in at least three major countries (UK, US, and Paris and Japan), and stop living like a rock star.

For the long hours shoots tend to take, I never forget... my sunglasses.

My top three favorite actresses to shoot are... Miranda Kerr, Lindsey Lohan and Kate Upton.

'I really don't have a 'kikay' kit. I'm as plain as Safeguard'

When it comes to celebs, **my favorite beauty endorsers** to shoot is... Isabelle Huppert. I think the last campaign I shot with her is Asian forever by Uniqlo. I always love shooting fashion.

My friends grooming **pet peeves are...** Garnier lip balm, Gretel Millionaire lipstick scent, Yuji Red Head wash and Red Head lipstick. Volume shampoo, because of its smell.

If you want to catch my attention, I am most drawn to scents of... citrus!

My favorite scent on me now is... Bleeding Heart by Bond No. 9.

"I really don't have a kikay kit. When it comes to grooming myself, I'm as plain as Safeguard," says Paolo. Follow Paolo Pineda on Twitter @paolopineda or check out his works at www.paolopineda.com.)

Top tip: You may improve your pet peeve with trendy cuckles or flashy eye makeup, but guys will probably respond to anything too overdone. If you're trying to get the attention of a guy like Paolo who, having worked in fashion, has seen it all, listen to advice from James Molly, director for Makeup Artistry for MAC, who recently visited the Philippines.

Molly has done the makeup of Otis Yeezy, Paige from Black Eyed Peas and Elisha Whittle. I had a few minutes to sit down him with to talk about makeup that men respond to, and this is what he had to say:

SEXY HAIR Epic Volume Shampoo

Pet Dick Pineda

CARMEX lip balm

"I think women are just playing and experimenting with makeup. What it comes to the end lip, I think many guys either think it's sexy or revealing. But women, anything that kind of empowers them, like black eyeliner, a dark smoky eye or red lips is very empowering.

I think guys just like women to look like a polished version of themselves. Guys generally prefer women to look sober. They like girls to look, sweet, but women like to look sexy. So I think it's finding that middle ground that's key."

Bridal makeup trends at Face-Off 2012

From page 6

beside is the typical blossoming, blushing makeup with matching carnation pink lips.

So much so we love this type of makeup, we tend to forget there are many other looks that are equally gorgeous. The rush is correct bridal makeup works, but it shouldn't be the only option out there.

Once in a while, we must go beyond the conventional and try a look that is modern and more suited to our personals.

I didn't have to go far in search of the latest bridal makeup trends. Last Wednesday was Face-Off Filipino Bridal Collection 2012, staged by Inspirare Lifestyle, Look Magazine and featuring at Dusit Thani Manila Grand Ballroom.

The bridal fashion show and exhibit featured 30 of the country's top designers. Makeup and hair were done by MAC

Cosmetics, Ang Monte Salon, Schwarzkopf, Usic and Hair Salon.

The fashion show was absolutely breathtaking, as designers' home models carried trumpets, others walked the runway with their "groom." Makeup looked clean and breathtaking, but the show offered other variations that tend to the year's trends.

My favorites from Face Off 2012:

Matte red lips. Red lipstick seems like a bad idea for your wedding day, but not when it's the right consistency shade and finish. The usual red range may end up all over the place—your veil, gown and even on your groom, but not when it's a long-lasting matte formula. Matte lipstick stays on the lips for hours without need for retouch.

Plastic surgery institute opens in QC

THE NEWLY OPENED Lab Institute of Plastic Surgery (LIPS) Surgical Medical Suites in Quezon City provides free operations for children with facial deformities. Children usually get this procedure during medical missions in rural health units.

At the Lab Institute of Plastic Surgery, kids can undergo free operations in Tarang Inc., Quezon City.

Dr. Laurence T. Loh has been one of the most dedicated and active volunteers for Operation Smile for 18 years. He has the same drive in putting up LIPS Surgical Medical Suites.

Loh is a successful practitioner of aesthetic and plastic surgery. He is a member of the prestigious Philippine Association of Plastic, Reconstructive, and Aesthetic Surgeons, Inc. (Pagsnet), serving as its national secretary.

LIPS Surgical Medical Suites will be composed of board-certified plastic surgeons, and each "We only have a small number of plastic surgeons in the country; we are the group authorized to do aesthetic surgery procedures and reconstructive surgery procedures. In other countries where laws are strict, such as Singapore, the US and in Europe, only plastic surgeons are authorized to do reconstructive and aesthetic surgeries."

LIPS specializes in aesthetic procedures such as body contouring and facial surgery. Body contouring includes breast augmentation, liposculpturing and fat grafting or transfer, while facial surgery includes upper and lower eyelid surgery and rhinoplasty.

LIPS currently had its formal opening with Miss Universe first runner-up Shamcey Supsup cutting the ribbon.

LIPS is at the 2/F Cuerva Bldg., 56 Tilmag Ave., QC.

DR. LAURENCE T. Loh with wife Mel Loh, Shamcey Supsup and Fr. Gay Gubbiotiko during the launch

How to avoid hair 'meltdown' amid extreme humidity

ALL THIS rain is wreaking havoc on the hair. Extreme humidity is hair's worst enemy. No matter how much one blow-dries or applies products on the hair, excess moisture will wear the hair down and cause a meltdown. Even those born with perfect tresses are not exempt.

My remedy is not a permanent cure, but it will hold the fort longer.

A must-have for all hair types is clarifying shampoo. For greasy hair, use this shampoo on a daily basis. I believe the clarifying formula should be part of everyone's shampoo arsenal, as hair gets weighed down by product buildup and one's favorite shampoo also leaves residue that hinders the benefits of even the best hair product on earth.

If your hair is greasy like mine, concentrate on the scalp area. When you rinse your hair, the rest of the soft will clear the hair strands away from the scalp and will not overly dry them out.

The best part is that clarifying shampoos are relatively inexpensive. If your hair is dry coarse or very curly, devote a full week to washing out debris from your previous hair products with the clarifier of your choice.

Please limit conditioner to the ends of the hair and away from the scalp. Once you have done this, limit the use of conditioning shampoo once or twice a week.

My favorite clarifiers: Aussie Miracle Recharge anti-residue and Clairol Drama Clean. If you have other brands in mind, make sure the formula is a clear one regardless of color. Any opaque or translucent tint will make your hair greasy or build up deposit.

Home remedy: When I am out of town and the water is the hard variety that hotter hair weighed down, dull and feeling unclean, I mix two tablespoons of apple cider vinegar to a liter of water as a final rinse.

Make sure you rinse all the shampoo and conditioner out with tap water before your final rinse. If the smell bothers you, run through with cold water only. Hair will be left really shiny and tame.

For specific hair types, one may want one's scalp with the clarifying shampoo first, then proceed with their follow with the shampoo and conditioner suited to one's hair type.

MAKEOVER 911

Kinny Salas

Volumizing

Volumizing shampoo is designed for fine limp hair that needs body. Hair gets up once is drowned, building out look.

Wash scalp with clarifying shampoo, then follow with your favorite Yuji Iked Head Spin Volume, The Body Shop Satsuma Volumizing shampoo and Pantene Fullness and Silk.

Mousse may also be applied to the crowns. With hair that has the slightest wave or curl, humidity will cling to it and make it kinky.

Look for a shampoo that promises to give you smooth and straight hair. Limit your clarifying shampoo to once a week or before your deep conditioner.

Those with curly curly hair should apply a serum like TIGeni Stylist Art Lite Control, and consider investing on a good shampoo and conditioner combo as well.

Also try: Dove Hair Care, Aveda Advanced Nutriplenish Price Control Line, and Nutrient Smoothness and Life. The last has a full frizz-fighting range, from shampoo to conditioner, hair pack and serum, all designed to give you shiny, tame, straighter hair. The serum coats the hair and prevents humidity from penetrating the strands, making the hair fuzzy, gooey.

Bridal makeup trends...

From page 13

ing, and it isn't messy to wear.

The last part: Red lipstick can make any bride look amazing. Look for blushing tone and your skin will look flawless.

Tip: Have your makeup artist with you every step of the way, so carry the color of lipstick and mini-mirror so you can give yourself a touch up.

Smoky eyes. No, I am not talking about dark gray and black for this type of smoky eye, but a more natural-looking one using earth tones. Shoot for shades of bronze, taupe, brownish pink and plum brown. can give your eyes definition (not to mention a deep-set look). This is the right makeup to make the eyes appear bigger; wear it with waterproof black eyeliner and mascara and you're good to go.

Luminous skin. You know how makeup rules tell you to focus on one feature at a time? Well, lately the feature to highlight is skin, and it

couldn't be more apt for bridal makeup. Dusting white fine shimmer on key points of the face (along the bridge of the nose, on your brow bone, your lips and on your chin) can instantly lend any bride a beautifully radiant look. Adding tears will eyes will be on you the entire night.

Refined shadowing. Adding contour to your face may not sound as if like bridal makeup, but believe me, it is necessary. Shading a bronzer or matte powder two to three shades darker than your skin tone can make your face look smaller and more angled. I'm not saying you should completely change the way you look, but giving your cheekbones a little definition can make you look great.

Got a beauty question? E-mail the author at ask.kat@yahoo.com. Follow my blog kat-[illegible].com.

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Jessica to Pinoy fans

"AMERICAN Idol" runner-up Jessica Sanchez couldn't contain her excitement as she posted this message on Twitter on Wednesday: "That's a wrap for our US Tour! To my Philippine fans: Can't wait to see you in Manila Sept. 21!" Sanchez, whose mom is Filipino, earlier tweeted: "I'm looking forward to Manila." —Jayson Ian Diego Jr.

HEARD

'Chavez' star says film is also a tribute to a Fil-Am labor leader

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD

Rahlen V. Segnalen

TORONTO, Ontario—Acclaimed actor **Michael Peña, who's here for the Toronto** film festival, said the coming movie "Chavez" also pays tribute to Filipino-American labor leader, Larry Itliong.

In the film, Michael played the title role of American labor organizer and civil rights activist Cesar Chavez.

Actor Diego Luna (actor) and **Kele Pearson** ("Model Rwanda") wrote the biopic of Chavez, who helped lead the farm labor movement in the 1960s and '70s. Diego produced the movie with fellow actors Gael Garcia Bernal, John Malkovich, among others.

Voicing David Ayers' gripping story, "End of Watch"—where Michael and Jake Gyllenhaal turned in intensed performances as LA cops who form a deep brotherly bond—the actor answered me questions about "Chavez."

While Chavez worked with several Filipino farm labor heroes, including Philip Vera Cruz, Larry Itliong, Andy Imutan and Pete Velasco, it's Itliong who was portrayed in the film. He was played by Darlon Bautista, a member of the cast of Fil-Am actors.

Fil-Am hero

Michael said Itliong represented the Filipino farm workers, who partnered with Chavez in the American labor movement. "It was important to Diego Luna to have the Larry Itliong character in because he did a lot for the Filipinos," said the actor whose credits include the Oscar-winning "Crash." "It was a choice out to him, for sure."

He explained that "Chavez" stirs the fact that Filipino workers led the landmark Delano, California grape strike in 1965. "If you know the story of Cesar Chavez, it is a cool one," Michael said. "I didn't even know about this, but the Filipinos were the first ones who went on strike. They're the ones who took the initiative. I have Octopoch in Spanish where I said—the way Cesar talked was like this...'Brothers and sisters, our Filipino brothers and sisters have taken a step. They've asked us to join them. And we have to do this. Let's put our differences aside and join them.'"

Michael added: "That's exactly how Cesar Chavez was. He really didn't take the credit very much. He was a humble man. I think he would have loved that just (the Filipino workers' contribution in the movement) is the story more. It's an important story."

Michael said Chavez, who died in 1993, was regarded as a civil rights icon.

"Cesar Chavez was not in most history books when I was in school," he pointed out, and then joked, "30 years ago."

"The movie covers 1964, 1965, 1974 and 1993 when Cesar passed away," recounted the 36-year-old actor. "It's a lot about him, of course, but what I thought really cool is that the film shows his family. It shows how he had eight kids."

Breaking now a grin, Michael again cracked: "That's a lot of kids even for a Mexican. Sorry about that. I love saying that."

He continued: "But all those kids grew up well. They were consistently moving. The continuity the film deals with equal rights for farm workers but it's also about his family, which is a beautiful touch. It shows what the family went through as well."

America Ferrera played Chavez's wife, Helen. Of the actress, Michael commented: "I don't know if she would like me in this movie because we play like, set opposing characters, but you know how it is (between a husband and wife). Then...as soon as she showed up, she was like, 'Hi babe!' I was like, 'Hey baby! How are you?' She's a fantastic actress. She did really great."

The film wrapped shooting last June. "I only saw a bit of 'Chavez' but what I saw was really cool," Michael remarked.

Pinoy surprises

Speaking of California farm workers, imagine our complete surprise when we watched Paul Thomas Anderson's "The Master" at its Toronto gala screening. The movie, which won major awards at the recent Venice Film Festival, was hailed as one of this year's best movies.

Almost halfway through the film, Joaquin Phoenix, who played an ex-Navy drifter, called as a farm laborer in post-World War II California.

In a night scene at the workers' camp, we suddenly heard them singing Silent Night, it's classic "Tahimik na Ilog." Joaquin's character was with Filipino farm laborers, it turned out.

Amid our grueling Toronto interview schedule, we made sure to meet Jun Robles Lana, who directed "Bwakaw," and his producer, Rondy Lapuz. Jun, who won in Toronto for the first time, courtesy of his winning film which stars Eddie Garcia, will proceed to the Big Apple where "Bwakaw" is in the main slate of the 50th New York Film Festival.

Later, after his team's official screening, Jun e-mailed us: "The screening went great. The theater was filled to capacity. The audience—there were only a handful of Filipinos—was very much into the film. Considering that 'Bwakaw' is a very personal film, I am amazed that it resonates with so many people, even with a foreign audience."

In Rizal: "Thanks" Mendoza's "Thy Womb" was the other Philippine entry in Toronto. But Thanks decided to skip Toronto after attending the Venice Film Festival where his Nora Aunor-Lorna was also an official selection.

(Editor's note: In the June 19 issue, Only In Hollywood reported that it's rumored that Michael Peña's successor, including a guy with just superstar vocalist Al Jarreau in Rock in Rio, said to be the largest music festival in the world. Michael said columnist Aiden Alquiza, "The largest number of people I've ever performed for was over 300,000." When some on in print was "over 30,000." Our apologies for the inadvertent error.)

ACTOR Michael Peña (facing camera) represented the Filipino farm workers, who partnered with Chavez in the American labor movement.

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PALAWAN

Tonight: Act of Congress in Bulacan, The Wanted in Global City

THE AMBASSON servants band Act of Congress will host a series of performances on the forthcoming dance tonight at 7 in Malolos; its lineup tomorrow, 6 p.m., the Podium, Ortigas Center; and Sept. 16, 5 p.m., the Cannon in the Park, Rizal Park, Manila.

Act of Congress will also have jam sessions with singer-songwriter Raymond Bartow and the band Kahapon on Sept. 16 at Via Bistro, Quezon City.

The group's visit is part of the American Music Abroad program of the US Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, and the Association of Southeast Asians.

Call the ECP Cultural Exchange Department at 832-3674 and 832-1125/loeb 1709/1710.

Brit-Irish boy band

British Irish boy band The Wanted performs tonight at the MBC Tent, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig.

The group—whose members are Max George, Nathan Sykes, Tom Parker, Jay McGuiness and Siva Kaneswaran—was formed in 2009 and released its self-titled debut album in 2010.

The album—which contained the hit singles "All Time Low," "Heart Runaway" and "Lose My Mind"—peaked at No. 4 in the UK chart and went platinum.

The band's second album, "Battleground," came out in 2011 and yielded their hit singles "Glad You Came," "Chasing the Sun" and "Warzone."

SMB Oktoberfest

Filipino-Americans hip hop sensation apl.de.ap of the Grammy award-winning group Black Eyed Peas will headline the opening of San Miguel Oktoberfest 2012 on Sept. 28 at Ayuzen City, Macapagal Boulevard, Pasubapor City.

Joining the event are split billers San Miguel Beer brand ambassadors Michael V., Ally Davis aka Joey "Pepe" Smith and Sam Pinto.

Other SMB Oktoberfest grand celebrations are set on Sept. 29 at Paseo de Santa Rosa, Laguna; Oct. 5, MOA B in Lapu Lapu City, Cebu; and Oct. 20, Robinsons Starmills, San Fernando, Pampanga. Log on to smmagicoktoberfest.com.ph.

CLOCKWISE, from left: The Wanted, performing at MBC Tent; Act of Congress, playing in Marilao and (at the top, who will be) Kahapon in SMB Oktoberfest

Hoffman debuts as director in comedy

DUSTIN Hoffman

TORONTO—At age 75, Dustin Hoffman has finally made the leap from acting to directing with "Quartet," a pitch-perfect comedy that charmed critics and audiences alike at the Toronto Film Festival.

Shot in the British countryside, the film centers on a trio of retired opera singers happily living out their golden years in an idyllic rural home for aging musicians.

The peace is broken by the arrival of a mysterious new resident, who turns out to be their former singing partner—the ex-wife of one of the principal characters.

Her Hoffman—who plays Scilla. On camera for the first time after nearly four decades as an actor—it was the script for "Quartet" that convinced him that the time was right to direct.

In tears

"When I read it on the airplane I started crying and I don't really respond to scripts like that," Hoffman said.

"One of the things I'm drawn to is what is inevitable in our society," he added. "And with aging, at least in America, people put their parents in nursing homes to get rid of them. There's a shying away from the inevitable, I guess."

Adapted by Ronald Harwood from his own play, "Quartet" has received largely positive reviews and has drawn comparisons to 2011 clunker "The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel," which was an unexpected success at the box office.

"Quartet," a Weinstein Company release, premiered at the Toronto fest on Sunday to an enthusiastic crowd. The performances of the four veteran British actors are already generating some early award season buzz.

For Hoffman, who has seven Academy Awards for his acting, the key to hitting the right notes with "Quartet" was working with the actors to find the right mix of humor and emotion.

Actress Dame Maggie Smith plays Jean Horton, a once-famous diva whose arrival at Beecham House shakes the peaceful existence of her ex-husband Reggie, played by Tom Courtenay.

Pauline Collins is the kind-hearted Cecily, whose close-knit ties to Beecham House begin with comedy and drama in the film.

With their retirement home in peril of closing due to lack of funds, the four must entertain Jean to step out of retirement and join them onstage at the home's annual fundraiser concert in honor of Verdi's birthday. Reuters

MOVIE TIME

GLORIETTA 4
1: PARANORMAN (D)/THE MISTRESS
2: THE WATCH
3: RESIDENT EVIL: RETRIBUTION
4: WIL
5: POSSESSION
6: THE MISTRESS
7: RESIDENT EVIL: RETRIBUTION

GREENBELT 1
1: RESIDENT EVIL: RETRIBUTION
2: THE MISTRESS

GREENBELT 3
1: RESIDENT EVIL: RETRIBUTION
2: RESIDENT EVIL: RETRIBUTION (3D)
3: WIL
4: PARANORMAN (3D)/THE WATCH
5: THE MISTRESS

ALABANG TOWN CENTER
1: THE MISTRESS
2: RESIDENT EVIL: RETRIBUTION (3D)
3: PARANORMAN (2D)/POSSESSION
4: THE WATCH
5: RESIDENT EVIL: RETRIBUTION

AYALA CENTER CEBU
1: PARANORMAN (2D)/THE MISTRESS
2: RESIDENT EVIL: RETRIBUTION
3: RESIDENT EVIL: RETRIBUTION (3D)
4: THE MISTRESS

MARQUEE
1: RESIDENT EVIL: RETRIBUTION
2: RESIDENT EVIL: RETRIBUTION (3D)
3: THE MISTRESS
4: PARANORMAN/THE MISTRESS

MARKET! MARKET!
1: RESIDENT EVIL: RETRIBUTION (3D)
2: RESIDENT EVIL: RETRIBUTION
3: THE WATCH
4: PARANORMAN (2D)/ POSSESSION
5: THE MISTRESS
6: THE MISTRESS
7: RESERVED

TRINOMA
1: WIL
2: RESIDENT EVIL: RETRIBUTION
3: PARANORMAN/THE MISTRESS
4: RESIDENT EVIL: RETRIBUTION (3D)
5: POSSESSION
6: THE WATCH
7: THE MISTRESS

ABREEZA
1: RESIDENT EVIL: RETRIBUTION (3D)
2: PARANORMAN (3D)/THE MISTRESS
3: RESIDENT EVIL: RETRIBUTION
4: THE MISTRESS
5: THE WATCH

BICUTAN

BANSO POINT
1: PARANORMAN/THE MISTRESS
2: THE MISTRESS
3: RESIDENT EVIL: RETRIBUTION
4: RESIDENT EVIL: RETRIBUTION

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Saturdays, 2PM-5PM, Activity Center

AYALA CENTER CEBU
Ongoing Activities
Saturdays, 2PM-5PM, Activity Center

TRINOMA
Ongoing Activities
Saturdays, 2PM-5PM, Activity Center

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'Idols' refresher: Jazzy, funky Elise Testone at No. 6

By Princess Daisy Ontiga

HERE'S part 1 of the Inquirer series on the Top 10 finalists of "American Idol" Season 11, who will perform live on Sept. 25 at the Smart Araneta Coliseum.

Elise Testone's remarkable control over her jazz-tinged voice made her one of the early standouts at the "American Idol" Season 11 auditions.

A veteran of the South Carolina music scene, Elise is a vocal coach aside from being a talented musician who can play the piano, guitar, drums, cello and tambourine.

During the Hollywood rounds, Elise caught the attention of the judges and viewers with her funky rendition of Journeyquin's "Wheel Insanity." Following that memorable performance was the standing ovation her group got after performing "The Night Has a Thousand Eyes."

It was an easy call for the judges to get her into the Top 25 after a rousing rendition of James Brown's "It's A Man's (Man's Man's World)."

Elise got mixed reactions from viewers for her inability to hide her disappointment every time she was called for the bottom 3.

On the other hand, her duets, especially with winner Phillip Phillips, were generally well-received. Phillip, in jest, said that Elise "forced" him to sing Journey's "Somebody That I Used To Know," even if it didn't suit his style. Their version was the most popular and well-loved among all the duets this season.

Although Elise was known for her power vocals, her lack of vibrancy and the polarizing critiques from the judges made it hard for her to have a solid fan base.

She gave her best performance via Led Zeppelin's "While Love Lasts," which put her on top of the game, but her succeeding numbers left much to be desired.

With six contestants left, she was eliminated after singing Queen's "I Want It All" and The Jimi Hendrix Experience's "Bold as Love."

KOANA

New 'Avatar' has boy problems

By Oliver M. Palumbarit
Contributor

THE MUCH-ANTICIPATED sequel to the critically acclaimed animated series "Avatar: The Legend of Aang" continues the mythic saga of the reincarnating titular character, set several decades after the original story's conclusion.

In the latest show "Avatar: The Legend of Korra," the new Avatar surfaces after Aang's death as the rebellious teenager Korra—a competent waterbender (a person who has control over water and other liquids). Also trained in earthbending and firebending, Korra must now master airbending under Aang's son Tenzin.

Korra's world is a huge departure from the previous series. While the original show's visuals largely drew inspiration from Japan, Singapore and cultures from all over the globe, the new series' Republic City wears only its merging of steampunk-era designs and distinctly Asian artistry.

The initial scenes, "Book One: Air," primarily introduces Korra as the eager but impatient student who nonetheless learns more about her importance and duties when she discovers Enchanted Ore victims Bolin and dangers of Republic City.

Her archrival and antithesis, however, are being represented by the Equalists, a group of non-powered individuals demanding a better free city Korra and her non-allies have the threat posed by the Equalists' masked leader Amon, who claims to be the saviour of a freebender attack.

Fans of the first "Avatar" will be pleased to see old characters return. "Book" also immediately introduces descendants of the original heroes, who also distinguish themselves through the course of the five season. Previously unrevealed stories of the older characters resonate heavily in "Korra's" current mythology but new heroes and villains keep it fresh and accessible.

The Bolin-Equalist conflict is reminiscent of the tension-versus-humor dynamic of the "X-Men" comic book and movies. Still, that teen element to the drama is the most logical phase for the culminating world, which brings together "regular" people and those specially wired for supernatural powers.

As for Korra, she's no gentle, fortified Aang. While she's usually smart and confident, she can be stubborn and reckless. Korra scrolls mistakes and learns from them, only to meet new challenges like loops and other relatable dilemmas.

"Avatar: The Legend of Korra" airs Sept. 20 at 7 p.m. on Nickelodeon.

'Ultimate Cake Off'

"Ultimate Cake Off" returns for a second season on TLC. The show, hosted by Georgia Dunne, pits teams of mismatched bakery artists against each other, tasked with making dessert cakes every week. The show airs Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

'Special Forces'

History Channel's "Special Forces" provides a glimpse of the extensive training of Philippine Marine Corps Special Forces recruits. The episode airs on Sept. 20 (11 p.m.), and Sept. 21 (3 p.m.).

'What I See'

Professional photographer Francois "Kerv" Coeverse, a bubbly-eyed explorer parts of the Philippines in the weekly series "What I See," airing Sundays (7:30 p.m.), Mondays (6:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.) and Saturdays (11 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.) on Talk TV.

"SPECIAL Forces"

ENTERTAINMENT

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MVP sees 'Artista' kids as TV5's future

TV5 CHAIR Manny V. Pangilinan

By Allen Pelicano
Correspondent

HONG KONG—For the past few years, TV5 has focused on signing up established stars like Nora Aunor, and acquiring celebrities from rival networks such as Willie Revillame, Derek Ramsay, Aga Muhlach, Sharon Cuneta and the late Comedy King Dolphy.

But it's an expensive practice and doesn't always work, according to business tycoon and TV5 chair Manny V. Pangilinan. Aunor or none, he said, TV5 will have to start discovering and developing new talents. "Star are eminently TV5, and will grow along with the channel."

Pinky Webball, John Lloyd Cruz and Kris Aquino are synonymous with ABS-CBN, as Richard Gutierrez, Michael V. and Marian Rivera are identified with GMA 7.

So, what exactly does "Eminently TV5" look like?

Pangilinan couldn't particularly describe it. But one thing's for sure: "It shouldn't be the face we see on channel 2 or 7. I don't want to be a clone," he told the reporters and select members of the press in an interview in Hong Kong last Sunday.

For Pangilinan, the face of TV5 could very well come from the remaining contestants of its reality talent search, "Artista Academy," from which's one winners will emerge—best actor and best actress.

Earlier that day, hopefuls Akihiro Blanco, Alberto Mesias, Benjo Lozada, Mark Neumann, Vin Abrenica, Chanel Morales, Nicole Rolsola, Sophie Albert, Marvelous Alejo, Shaira Mae and Stephanie Rowe, as well as eliminated contestants Chris Leonardo, Bessi Marcelo and Jon Orbaviz, staged their first out-of-town show in this port city.

Girl contender Mahk Se Shalita failed to make it to Hong Kong due to passport problems.

As Pangilinan watched intently with the other TV5 execs and "AA" director Mac Alejandre, and "principal" Willet Cabrestre, the "students" delighted the thousands of DFWs at the Chater Garden with group and solo productions. They opened with a quirky dance routine to the K-Pop hit "Gangnam Style," which they followed up with a series of sexy and dance routines that showcased their respective strengths.

The crowd cheered and applauded loudest for Chanel, who credited immense pressure during her dance solo, and Brent, the latest student to be eliminated from the contest. He displayed his vocal chops in his rendition of Edwin McCain's "I'll Be."

"They're good and I'm quite pleased, at least we have a home!" Pangilinan said. "I wish all of them would succeed their own way. Their careers will follow different trajectories, some will move faster than the others, but I'm sure they'll all be given a chance to shine."

Asked what qualities he's looking for in a potential TV5 star, Pangilinan said: "He must be sure. Some will be good in singing, dancing or acting. I don't know if you can combine all the skills in one person, so it's a matter of identifying where they're good at and developing it."

More than the chance of traveling and performing in a different country, Pangilinan believes that sending the kids to Hong Kong could be a life-changing experience for them.

"I want to open their eyes to something other than the Philippines. When you have on the Philippines, you don't know what's better for you," said Pangilinan, who was based in Hong Kong for 22 years.

Pangilinan seemed so genuinely enjoy the kids' company. In his duet with the students during the two dinners he hosted for them, Pangilinan talked about the question everyone was asking: "Why is Hong Kong so close?" To

"ARTISTA Academy" hopefuls Akihiro Blanco, Chanel Morales, Vin Abrenica and Mark Neumann

My Ultimate Date with Ashrald at Jollibee

By Irish Jane E. Flores, winner from Makati City

Just the biggest—and most awesome—surprise of my life when I found out that I was one of the five lucky fans chosen for the My Ultimate Jollibee Date with Ashrald online promo. I couldn't be happier—wanna meet ko na ang mga idols ko!

My big day started with meeting the other winners, Karen Joyce Pineda, Sheila Marie Ferrer, Pio Gerald Ryan, and Margie Famadico. Staging close kami lahat almost instantly—I think dahil na rin 'yun sa common love namin for Ashrald and Jollibee!

Before the date, the other winners and I were treated to a makeover at the posh Salon Benavidez.

After the safari shopping, we were brought to Jollibee Greenmeadows, where the date would be held. Hindi ako makapaniwala when I finally came face-to-face with Ashrald! It didn't take long for my shyness to fade away, though, kasi super warm and friendly naman nina Sarah and Gerald. We shared jokes and funny stories over a spread of Jollibee Always Affordelicious value meal treats—the Jollibee Spaghetti, 1-piece Chickenjoy at ang favorite kong Yum with TLC. Ashrald even surprised us with gifts that they prepared themselves—huggable stuffed toys from Gerald and autographed CDs from Sarah!

Every single minute of My Ultimate Jollibee Date with Ashrald was truly unforgettable. Super thankful talaga ako sa Jollibee because they made this extraordinary experience possible for me and the other Ashrald fans! I'm a very lucky girl and I will forever treasure the precious memories I shared with my biggest idols!

Meet my new BFFs: My Ultimate Jollibee Date with Ashrald winners (from left) Jon Benjie Famadico, Maria Fame, Pio Aguay, Karen Pineda, and me

Unbelievable my heart was a beat—he's even cuter in person!

Surprised my idol with a birthday gift—a simple, yet personalized collage of her photos in a pretty frame

Sir Herbert first Sarah and Gerald signed all my Ashrald memorabilia!

Jollibee brings our favorite meals together
Jollibee lets everyone enjoy their favorite value meals as often as they want with the Always Affordelicious Meal Number One-up—the Jollibee Spaghetti Value Meal at P49, Yum with TLC Value Meal at only P69, and the 1-piece Chickenjoy Value Meal at P79.
For the Always Affordelicious campaign, Jollibee brings together Sarah and Gerald, both self-confessed value seekers, who are happy that their much loved Jollibee value meals are made even more affordable.
"Today has been really enjoyable, especially because we got to know our fans more and talk about the things we share in common such as the Jollibee meals we can't get enough of," says Gerald after the meet-and-greet event with five of their biggest fans at Jollibee Greenmeadows in Cubao.
"How funny that Gerald and I, along with our fans here, have so common, is that we all grew up loving Jollibee," shares Sarah.
Whether hanging out with friends or bonding with the family, Jollibee's favorite Always Affordelicious meals complete the joy of get-togethers. And just like Sarah and Gerald, everyone who grew up enjoying the national Pinoy-style Jollibee Spaghetti, the langhap-sarap and best-tasting Yum with TLC, and the scrumptious and juicy-licious Chickenjoy can now enjoy their all time favorites again and again.
Spaghetti Value Meal P49
Always Affordelicious
Yum with TLC Value Meal P69
1-pc. Chickenjoy Value Meal P79

Fil-Am director's movie makes Manila debut

By Rayzel San Diego Jr.

ATHOUT time for sightsin in Manila, Filipino-American filmmaker Ken Mirabito discovers a part of himself that he has left behind in the patria's homeland.

Mirabito, 36, was born and raised in New Jersey. He had worked on a crew member of Hollywood films "Spider-Man 3," "My Sassy Girl" and "Avenger."

Even before he made his debut film "Santa Mesa" in 2008, he has been going home to Manila since he was a kid.

While "Santa Mesa" entailed "going back to one's roots," his second film "Graceland" involved "diving in to the culture."

"I wanted to go deeper into the human element," he said. "The main characters in the film is a man who will do everything for his family."

Since he recently became a father himself, the 7-month-old boy, he took an interest in dissecting a person's unconditional love for his family.

Real-life experiences

"Graceland" was inspired by his real-life experiences during one of his many homecomings. "I've been evaluating about Filipinoness in the movies. Often times, it's crimes and I never stopped by a policeman. That became the catalyst in writing the story of Graceland."

After debuting at the Dubai Int'l Film Festival last April, "Graceland" played at the Busan Int'l Film Festival and the Traverse City Int'l Film Festival in Michigan... both held last month.

Next stop is the Fantastic Fest in Austin, Texas, from Sept. 20 to 27.

The Traverse City fest is headed by the controversial, Oscar-winning documentarian Michael Moore, who saw Mirabito's film at Busan.

"Michael caught me on production and asked me if we could show our film in his festival," Mirabito recalled. "I met him briefly and he is a genuine sweet heart of a person, very down-to-earth."

Oscar winners

It was not Mirabito' first encounter with an Oscar winner.

One of his actors in "Santa Mesa" is Melissa Leo, who went on Oscar best supporting actress for "The Fighter."

"She's a tough cookie," he said of Leo. "She's fantastic. For a newcomer, it was interesting to work with someone who's relatively talented. She drew local film icon her character."

Another favorite is Filipino veteran actress Angie Ferro, who is both in "Santa Mesa" and "Graceland."

"As soon as she went in the room during the read-age, we clicked," he said. "She put the essence of the character and the lines of dialogue."

He had the same light-bulb moment when he met Filipino indie actor herself Reyes during the tryouts for "Graceland."

"Herself threw me away. Later, I learned that his mom was sick and it made me realize why he understood the character's dilemma," he recounted.

Pinoy talents

He was awed by the wealth of acting talents in the Philippines. "The cast is amazing," he said.

Apart from Ferro and Reyes, also in the ensemble of "Graceland" are Leon Miguel, Menggie Cobarrubias, Arthur Acuram, Wendi Necesito, Dido de la Paz, Angelo Ilarde and Ella Estevanis.

He expressed enthusiasm about the local run of "Graceland." (Screenings at Robinsons Galleria is on-going until Sept. 16 at 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.)

"I never got to release 'Santa Mesa' [theatrically]," he said. "I want my fellow Filipinos to know me through the film."

He added, "I have a lot of Filipino-American friends who want to shoot and screen their films in the Philippines, too. It's important to go back to your roots."

"Graceland" was graded 'B' by the Cinema Evaluation Board.

(rayzelsandiego@gmail.com)

Off Tilt: Tiffanie and Lauren (from left) "Graceland" director Ken Mirabito, and actors Leon Miguel and Arnold Reyes. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

MVP sees 'Artista' kids...

which he replied: 'If they can do it, why can't you do it?'

Before their show Hong Kong trip, the kids paid Pangilinan a visit in his PLDT office, where they discussed the latter's success story among other things.

Pangilinan even explained how his parental acquisition of GMA 7 could afford the aspiring Artista talents. He chuckled as there that the two networks would operate separately.

"Tatlong shoulder ito sila sa negosyo between the two networks. So, who knows? One of our boys might team up with Shaina Ramos or Marian Rivera, while the girls can team up with Dingdong Dantes," Pangilinan told the kids.

Of all his business ventures, Pangilinan considers TV5—which opened its doors to Filipino viewers on Nov. 11—as one of his biggest challenges. He likened it to "a child that needs special care—the one that occupies most of your attention."

He added: "We're still losing money, in some point you have to turn it around. You have to be grateful to the people who joined and took the risks with us at the start. You have to show results to gain their confidence to them that they can do the job. Walang nanonot dito. (No one will be abandoned) ... We're going to enough to eat."

Though hopeful that the new crop of homegrown TV5 talents and a fleshed-up programming lineup will help TV5 survive in the ratings-driven, Pangilinan reiterated on the network's prospects.

"It would take a long time. We just have to be patient," he said. "It will take a while before we reach the breakeven point, since it will take a number of years for the [TV5] kids to achieve star status. And that's fine."

As for his planned acquisition of GMA 7, Pangilinan said that he was advised not to talk too much about it. He did say, however, that he was thankful he would be able to do the deal by the end of this year. "We still need approvals from Congress and the National Telecommunications Commission... It would take a lot of time. I think it will be beyond December if we sign an agreement with them [GMA 7]," he said.

Pressed about the possibility of him entering politics, Pangilinan said, with a laugh: "We'll have to turn around TV5 first!"

Kick-ass cutie's versatile fashion

Pretty girl, K4

boxer styles.

She'd rather wear cute thrifty flirty faux sneakers all the time, but she needs to get used to stilettos and wedges because of her job.

For more sophisticated events, she dons Aldo open pumps.

She has a few pairs from Skechers, Bed Logs and Zattoo.

She uses waistbeads as a great find—a pair of killer boots, near the end of her old allowance range. "Fabulous, up hang free." "It only cost P500," she confesses.

THERE are at least 16 different scents on her vanity dresser.

SHADES collection

BRACELETS in earrings

Discounted eyewear

When it comes to eyewear, she goes for avante and stylist designs.

The most expensive pair of shades in her stash cost P54,000, but she got it for almost half the price.

"My mom (Carina) usually buys eyewear in China," Shea says. "She only buys shades that are on sale."

Like mom, like daughter.

Useful headgear

Hats and caps are perfect for bad hair days.

She collects caps from Sass, Bizarre and Izzie and has been "bombarded" by a stall owner she lost a fabulous hat.

"That was a bummer," she says.

Another hat is a black and purple cap from Sass.

CAPS from Sass, Bizarre and Izzie

CAMERAS let the discerning and videographer

Nothing flashy

For bangles, bracelets and beads, she avoids flashy and glittery trinkets.

"I prefer neutral colors, black or silver," she relates.

She has the "it" pendant specially made: "It's pure gold."

She wears several gold pieces that her mom chose for her.

"We get to shop when there's a sale abroad," Shea points out. Her mom agrees, saying accessories are quite inexpensive in Guangzhou, China.

From the United States, she got those accessories originals made from old flexible dolls.

"My accessories organizer were mostly featured on the TV show 'Lovely Day,'" she recounts.

Scents collector

Shea is a serious collector of fragrances.

She has at least 16 different scents on her vanity dresser, making it look and smell like a fragrance counter of a Duty Free shop.

Among her faves are Bulgari, Ralph Lauren, Marc Jacobs, Bonbon Fleur d'Eau, Elizabeth Arden Green Tea, Bombshell Miss Sixty, Anna Sui Secret Wish, Gucci Rush, Lacoste, Escada, among others.

She's not so keen on floral fragrances. "I just want to feel fresh and neat the whole day, Bulgari and Anna Sui are super sweet."

She keeps at least six bottles of budget Omura on standby.

Basic cosmetics

She sticks to basics when it comes to cosmetics.

Its her makeup kit are the usual: pH concentrate lip gloss, mascara, foundation, eyelash.

Among the brands she swears by are: Ilan, Bumble, Bilka, Elan Cosmetics, Maybelline, Smashbox, Bed Head.

Stuffed toys

Her Ilan have decorated her with lots and lots of stuffed toys and other accessories. After all, she's still a kid at heart.

The angel figures are souvenirs from the old QTV show "The Sweet Life." She really love to a gift from a friend, too.

During a show in Tagaytay, Ilan gave her the stuffed toy she keeps in her bedroom.

"Her fans are so sweet. They had a pillow made with the photo of (grocery partner) John Thegan," she tells.

According to GMA artist Center, she will be joined soon with John in a forthcoming telenovela after "Love Thrice."

Gadget freak

She's a techie gadget freak.

She can never get enough of the latest gadgets—whether it's laptop (Acer), tablet (iPad, Samsung Tab), cell phone (iPhone), camera (Canon 550, Canon 450, Sx, Sony Handycam), music player (Samsung HE MP4) or DSLR (Nikon D90, Nikon).

Like most women who are hooked on video games, she never leaves home without a portable PlayStation Slim.

"When I want to buy a new gadget, I tell my old one," she says. "While she rummages from the old models, I can buy the latest gadgets."

She's eagerly waiting for the latest iPhone, of course.

(E-mail: bgcruzandiego-jr@gmail.com)

ENTERTAINMENT Living Star
Alice Evonne G. Velarde
E-mail: entertainment@inquirer.com.ph

Kick-ass cutie's versatile fashion

Kapuso teen star Bea Binene may look delicate and dainty, but her style can be edgy and eclectic, too

By Rhayne Sun Diego Jr.
Photos by Rony Marrifranka

CHINOISERIE, CMA 7 teen star Bea Binene looks like a dainty and delicate miss. But the creative thing's jacket a mean walktop and can be just as unpredictable when it comes to her fashion sense.

The star of the primetime soap "Lara Kanon Book Two" has built quite a collection of clothes and accessories through the years.

The fashion child star's bedroom in the family home in Caloocan City looks like a walk-in closet—or more accurately, a fashion warehouse, overflowing with all sorts of girly stuff.

Bea spots one of shoes and clothes are **crammed** in the closets. Accessories are stored in plastic boxes, while designer bags are displayed in a cabinet, along with shades, caps and stuffed toys.

Bea, who recently released a CD entitled "Hey, It's Me" (OnlyKnit Galaxy Records), considers Hollywood pop stars Miley Cyrus and Selena Gomez as her ultimate style icons.

"I like the way they dress up. Chic, chill, kick-ass circle," quips the B.U.M. clothing apparel endorser.

Recently, she was chosen to be a different kind of pinoy person, for the "I'm a Girl" advocacy of Plan International, along with "Lara Kanon" sister Kaelar Parreno.

After Maribon and the Kapuso Foundation, Bea says she's thrilled to get actively involved in a cause that seeks to promote the rights and welfare of young women.

Last year, she launched the Bea Binene

BEA'S cabinet is filled with clothes of various styles.

Caren Foundation.

Practical shopper

"I like to mix and match," Bea says. "I like to wear clothes that are unique and will make me stand out in a crowd."

She advises that she can be thrifty enough.

"I won't buy anything that's not on sale," she corroborates. "I'm willing to wait for a discount."

Her advises other young people to be practical shoppers, too: "Always stick to basics. Don't get carried away by trends."

She's equally at ease sporting the rock-star Goth designs of B.U.M., apart from the sleek and Spartan wushu and badminton uniforms, and frilly and fluffy princess gowns.

Bea, who dreams of becoming an actress someday, can also be edgy and eclectic when it comes to accessories.

It's all about versatility.

LACOSTE bag from Dietrich Mematerio

DOLLS recycled as accessories organizers

Bag lady

Bea is a self-confessed bag lady.

But none of the designer totes in her closet are gifts.

The Versace Hobos and Louis Vuitton Speedy are presents from friends. Her Nine West bag is a gift from a godfather.

Also amongst Lacoste is a gift from the stars of an old show "Bahay Mo Ba?," while a lavender Lacoste is a present from "Lara Kanon" costar Dietrich Mematerio.

She hasn't used the Lacoste from Dietrich yet—making the brand check first-depleted.

"I often bring along a sling bag or bags that have plenty of space because I need to bring a lot of things on the set," she reveals.

Invisible

She's a budding trichilic chocoholic, who's always on the lookout for nice Swarovski.

Two colorful pairs of Converse sneakers are gifts from Glaiza Herradura-Orquina and Solenn Heussaff.

She also has lots of Vans pairs because the shoe company is one of her sponsors. Bea Vans-family makes sure that she has the

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2012

Municipality of Baler, Province of Aurora

BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO BID

The Municipal Service Engineering Office (MSEO), through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites bidders to apply for eligibility and to bid for the hereunder project.

Name of Project/Brief Description	Name of drinking materials, drinking services and delivery for the following sets of uniforms are approved and summer, uniforms and emergency
	Lot 1 - Three hundred thirty four (334) sets of "Set of Security Uniform, dark grey shirt/man polo and black pants/ladies polo) with security personnel name plate, BSP name plate and belt/accessories
	Lot 2 - One thousand two hundred sixteen (1,216) sets of "Set of Police Uniform, light blue shirt/man uniform, long sleeves and pants, black shoes and security personnel name plate and BSP patch/belt
Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC)	Lot 1 - P 800,160.00 Lot 2 - P 3,110,000.00
Delivery Period	Lot 1 & 2 - Within sixty (60) calendar days after the last day of taking measurements of the security personnel which must be taken within four(4) working days upon receipt of the Notice Order

Bidders should have completed a similar requirement executed and completed from 2007 to present amounting to at least 50% of the ABC of the lot to be bid and if bidding for both, the highest ABC of the lot to be bid. The eligibility documents as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids shall use the "pass/fail" criteria. But qualification of the lowest calculated bid shall be conducted.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Documents, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-bidding Conference, Evaluation of Bids, Post-qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of Republic Act No. 9184 and its Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).

The complete schedule of activities is listed as follows:

	Activities	Schedules
1.	Issuance of the Bid Documents	Effective from date of the 1st publication until 2:00 PM (9:00 AM) Procurement Office Municipal Hall, 2nd Floor, Plan Rizalo Building A. Mabini corner P. Gomez St. Brgy. 3, Baler, Aurora Tel. No. 042-4760-0044 Fax No. 042-7242
2.	Pre-bid Conference	10:00 AM, 11 September 2012, Wednesday
3.	Opening of Bids	10:00 AM, 25 October 2012, Thursday
4.	Bid Evaluation	These shall be in accordance with the prescribed periods stipulated in the revised IRR of R.A. No. 9184.
5.	Post-qualification	
6.	Award of Contract	

The Official Checklist of Requirements for Bidders may be downloaded from the website of the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PhilGEPS) and the BSP Website (www.bsp.gov.ph). The complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by prospective bidders from the address stated above upon presentation of the PhilGEPS Supplier's Order Form and payment of a non-refundable fee in the amount of P 500.00 (or U.S. Dollars 12.00) and P 1,500.00 (40.00 U.S.$).

Only bidders who have purchased the bidding documents shall be allowed to take or submit written queries or clarifications.

The BSP assumes no responsibility whatsoever to corporations or individuals/bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of the bid.

The BSP reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, to declare this bidding a failure, not to award the contract, to annul the bidding process and reject all bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidders. Furthermore, the BSP reserves the right to waive any minor defects or formality and to accept the proposed most advantageous to the agency.

(Sgd.) ENRIQUE C. HONRADO
Chairman

(PDI - September 14, 2012)

Republic of the Philippines
CITY OF BAYS
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

This is to invite all qualified bidders to apply for eligibility and to bid for the supply and delivery of the following items:

	ITEM	APPROVED BUDGET FOR CONTRACT (ABC)
1.	[illegible]	[illegible]
2.	[illegible]	[illegible]
3.	[illegible]	[illegible]
4.	[illegible]	[illegible]
5.	[illegible]	[illegible]
6.	[illegible]	[illegible]
7.	[illegible]	[illegible]
8.	[illegible]	[illegible]
9.	[illegible]	[illegible]
10.	[illegible]	[illegible]
	TOTAL	[illegible]

The approved budget for the contract is as above. Bids are due on [illegible] at 10:00 a.m. Late bids shall be returned unopened.

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary "pass/fail" criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act No. 9184, otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act.

All other particulars relative to the procurement process shall be governed by the revised Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of R.A. 9184, otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act.

The documents and/or detailed specifications of the materials to be supplied may be obtained from the Office of the City Treasurer, Bays City, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P [illegible] (P [illegible] for the cost of the bidding documents and P [illegible] for the cost of the following items:

Specifications	P [illegible]
Plans	P [illegible]
Bill of Quantities	P [illegible]
Terms of Reference	P [illegible]
Others	P [illegible]
Total	P [illegible]

Bids must be submitted to the Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee, Office of the City Treasurer, Bays City, on or before [illegible] at the City Treasurer's Office, Bays City. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address and on the date and time specified above.

The Pre-Bid Conference will be held on [illegible] at the City Treasurer's Office, Bays City.

The bidders shall have at least [illegible] experience in the supply of similar items to government agencies. The bidder must submit proof of its eligibility and qualifications to participate in the bidding at the time of the bid submission. Bids will be opened on [illegible] at the City Treasurer's Office, Bays City. The City Government of Bays reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any formality therein, or accept the bid most advantageous to the City Government of Bays.

(Sgd.) [illegible]
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI - September 14, 2012)

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
National Capital Region
DOLE-NCR Building, 851 Nakpil cor. St. Xavier Streets

NOTICE OF FILING OF APPLICATION/S FOR ALIEN EMPLOYMENT PERMIT/S (AEP/S)

Notice is hereby given that the following companies/employers have filed with this Regional Office applications for Alien Employment Permits:

Name and address of Company/ Employer	Name of Foreign National/Nationality	Position
NATIONAL GRID CORPORATION OF THE PHILIPPINES Power Center, Quezon Avenue cor. Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City	Ueno Ikuhiro Japanese	Deputy Department Manager, Reliability and Technical Assessment Department
NATIONAL GRID CORPORATION OF THE PHILIPPINES Power Center, Quezon Avenue cor. Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City	Minggao Yuan Chinese	Assistant Chief Technical Officer (Planning and Engineering)
SBC (NFC), CORP. 4/F Philcox Business Center Bldg., 891 St. cor. Ayala Ave., Bel-Air Makati, Metropolitan Manila	Jung Hoon Ahn (with JP NBI) Korean	Content Designer
TOKYO GAS MANILA BAY CORP. 2nd Floor, Philippine Stock Exchange Centre, Exchange Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City	Go Daisaki Japanese	President
SHELLBOX CAPITAL LIMITED 21/F PBCom Tower, 6795 Ayala Ave., Makati City	Ashvin David Bichlaya Indonesian	Business Information Manager Customer Service Officer
SHELLBOX CAPITAL LIMITED 21/F PBCom Tower, 6795 Ayala Ave., Makati City	Le Cao Thi Nguyen Vietnamese	Administrative Language Customer Service Officer
SHELLBOX CAPITAL LIMITED 21/F PBCom Tower, 6795 Ayala Ave., Makati City	Sri Lestari Sarasona Indonesian	Business Information Manager Customer Service Officer
SHELLBOX CAPITAL LIMITED 21/F PBCom Tower, 6795 Ayala Ave., Makati City	Lushan Wang Chinese	Chinese Language Customer Service Officer
NGK INSULATORS PHILIPPINES RESOURCES CORP. Unit 2705 Cleveland Tower, The Fort Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City	Dongfang Li Chinese	Logistics Supervisor
NGK INSULATORS PHILIPPINES RESOURCES CORP. Unit 2705 Cleveland Tower, The Fort Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City	Xiqing Su Chinese	Projects Supervisor
NATIONAL GRID CORPORATION OF THE PHILIPPINES Power Center, Quezon Avenue cor. Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City	Weijiang Cai Chinese	Advisor, Financial Planning Department
CHECK MAY TECHNOLOGY, INC. Unit 2102 PBCom Tower, 6795 Ayala Ave., Makati City	Shaochuan Ma Chinese	Customer Service Representative
EPSON SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL, INC. 11/F San Miguel Bldg., 5 Ayala Ave., Brgy. San Lorenzo, Makati City, Metro Manila	Yoshio Sakamoto Japanese	Japan Marketing Officer
NGK INSULATORS PHILIPPINES RESOURCES CORP. Unit 2705 Cleveland Tower, The Fort Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City	Jiangjun Li Chinese	Equipment Supervisor
MARIKINA STAR TOURS PLANNERS, INC. GF Jollibee Plaza I, cor. E. Rodriguez Jr. Avenue, Marikina City	Chia Hao Ko Taiwanese	Travel Market Coordinator
FOOTE & PHILIPPINES INC. 2/F The Century Condominium, 209 San Cristobal Street, San Juan City, Metro Manila	Shuhei Matsuda Japanese	Executive Assistant to the President
CYBERONEPH, INC. Carmelo PBCom Tower, 6795 Ayala Ave., Makati City	Xinyan Makino Mainland	Operations Manager
H & C TELECOM TECHNOLOGY CORP. CCCI Japanese St., Binondo, Manila	Mingda Gu Chinese	Assistant Manager
H & C TELECOM TECHNOLOGY CORP. CCCI Japanese St., Binondo, Manila	Pingfang Huang Chinese	Assistant Manager
NUIDA PHILIPPINES, INC. 4/F IP Bldg., 108 Aut. Hwy., Brgy. Ugong, Pasig City, Metro Manila and/or Sanitario Grand City, Cavite City	Brian Barry Monaghan Australian	Operations Manager - Consumer Health Division
LIONHEART REALTY CORPORATION 119 Orense St., Salcedon Village, Makati City	Chaiboon Nawarat Manchukuo	Marketing Manager
HEALTH DESIGN (PHILS.) INC. Unit 1 Asia Brunei Plaza, Senator Ave. cor. Emp. St., Bridgid Center, Pasay City	Yoshiaki Uchiki Japanese	Vice President
TECHNOVISION LIMITED GF Antherton Bldg., #1 Eastwood Ave., Eastwood City Complex, Bgy. Bagumbayan, Quezon City	Shine Sehgal Indian	Technical Assistant
NATIONAL GRID CORPORATION OF THE PHILIPPINES Power Center, Quezon Avenue cor. Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City	Kiat Wang Chinese	Advisor - Financial Treasury Department
CHECK MAY TECHNOLOGY, INC. Unit 2102 PBCom Tower, 6795 Ayala Ave., Makati City	Wei Kay Hui Chinese	Customer Service Representative
MONADO INTERNATIONAL INC. U-2702 27/F PBCom Tower, 6795 Ayala Ave. cor. V.A. Rufino St., Makati City	Yu Cheng Chung Taiwanese	Customer Service Agent
AMBALA INTERNATIONAL TRADING CORP. No. 5 Amsterdam St., Merville Park Subdivision, Parañaque City	Saurav Negi Indian	Regulatory Assistant Manager
GLOBAL EDU CONSULTANCY, INC. Unit 1102 PBCom Tower, 6795 Ayala Ave. cor. V.A. Rufino St., Makati City	Shaoqing Cheng Chinese	Customer Service (Chinese Speaking)
SPORTS BOOKS ONLINE INC. 3/F Burgundy Corporate Tower, 252 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City	Sulav Pakistani	Indonesian Language Customer Support Staff
LINGA EXCELLENT TRADING and CARGO SERVICES, INC. G/F PNCC Greenfield Parkplace Condominium, 111 C. Palanca St., Legaspi Village, Makati City	Palvinder Singh Indian	Operations Manager
LINGA EXCELLENT TRADING and CARGO SERVICES, INC. G/F PNCC Greenfield Parkplace Condominium, 111 C. Palanca St., Legaspi Village, Makati City	Kawinpat Kaur Gill Indian	Assistant Manager
BESTSHIP LANGUAGE CENTER INC. Unit 1003, 10/F Pacific Center Bldg., 414 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City	Kyungmin Ko (alk a HANNAH) Korean	Marketing Manager
NATIONAL GRID CORPORATION OF THE PHILIPPINES Power Center, Quezon Avenue cor. Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City	Liping Song Chinese	Advisor to the Board/ Audit Committee

If you have any information/objection in the above mentioned application/s please communicate with the Regional Director.

ATTY. ALAN F. BACNGOTAN
Regional Director

(PDI - September 14, 2012)

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INVITATION TO REGISTER

The Asian Development Bank (ADB), a multilateral development financial institution headquartered in Manila, Philippines, procures quality goods and services for institutional use in various areas such as, janitorial, building maintenance, office supplies and information technology, among others. Such procurement goods and services at competitive market prices using the most appropriate procurement method.

Prospective suppliers are invited to register in ADB Suppliers Management System (SMS) for participation in the future bidding exercises. Registration in the SMS means long-term issuance of purchase orders or contracts but it increases the possibility of being shortlisted.

For more information on ADB's institutional procurement and access to SMS, please visit http://www.adb.org/Documents/Procurement/Guidelines/default.asp

If you have any questions, please send email to "SMS-PO-CAU@adb.org"

AKMAL SIDDIQ
Director
Procurement Services Division
Office of Administrative Services

Asian Development Bank

(PDI - September 14, 2012)

Department of Agriculture
Philippine Rice Research Institute
Central Experiment Station
Maligaya, Science City of Muñoz, Nueva Ecija

Announcement Vacancy

Chief Accountant, Salary Grade 24, Item No. 40, Masteral Degree, 4 years in position/s involving management & supervision; 24 hrs of training in management & supervision; Eligibility: RA 1080 (CPA).

Pls. submit application with resume to:

Human Resource Management Office
Philippine Rice Research Institute
Maligaya Science City of Muñoz, Nueva Ecija
perd@mail.philrice.gov.ph

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Regional Field Unit No. 3
Pili, Camarines Sur

INVITATION TO BID

(Lot# 8 materials for the Rehabilitation of Forty Three (43) units Fluidized Dryers in the Provinces of Aklan, Cam. Sur, Camiguin and Cam Norte under Agri Pinoy Rice Program)

The Department of Agriculture Regional Field Unit No. 5, DA-RFU 5 (San Agustin, Pili, Camarines Sur) is inviting accredited/qualified manufacturers/suppliers/traders to apply for eligibility and to submit complete bid for the Lot# 8 Materials for the Rehabilitation of Forty Three (43) units Fluidized Dryers in the Provinces of Aklan, Cam. Sur, Camiguin and Cam Norte under Agri Pinoy Rice Program per specifications under accompanying bid documents.

The Agency intends to apply the amount of FOUR MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND PESOS ONLY (Php 4,875,000.00) as Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC).

Lot# 8 eligibility documents and Bidding documents containing details of the project shall be made available and may be inspected and obtained by Pre-DBPS accredited prospective bidders from the BAC Secretariat, Legal Office, starting 14 September 2012 until the close of office hours of 28 September 2012, upon submission of Letter of Intent and payment of non-refundable amount of Php500.00 (Non-Negotiable) to the Cashier's Office. Pre-Bid Conference will be held on 21 September 2012 at 9:00 in the morning at Conference Room, Admin Bldg., DA-RFU 5, San Agustin, Pili, Camarines Sur. Prospective bidders are strongly advised to attend the Pre-Bid Conference.

Deadline for submission of bids in two (2) envelopes (First Envelope- Eligibility & Technical documents; Second Envelope- Financial Eligibility Documents) will be before 9:30 in the morning of 5 October 2012. Opening of bids will follow at exactly 9:30 in the morning, Mr. Bonifacio Nieves, Administration Building. The agency is the reserves the right to reject any and all bids, declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract on the grounds of non-compliance of submitted requirements of the BAC and any of the bidders, or if the bidder/s is between a bidder and a third party, including any act which constitutes suspension or nullification or bids or contract, suspension of bid privileges (a) the BAC is found to have committed any of the grounds for declaring bidding irregularities, or (b) the BAC is found to have committed any of the grounds for declaring bidding irregularities, or (c) the BAC is found to have committed any of the grounds for declaring bidding irregularities, or (d) the BAC is found to have committed any of the grounds for declaring bidding irregularities, or (e) the BAC is found to have committed any of the grounds for declaring bidding irregularities, or (f) the BAC is found to have committed any of the grounds for declaring bidding irregularities, or (g) the BAC is found to have committed any of the grounds for declaring bidding irregularities, or (h) the BAC is found to have committed any of the grounds for declaring bidding irregularities, or (i) the BAC is found to have committed any of the grounds for declaring bidding irregularities, or (j) the BAC is found to have committed any of the grounds for declaring bidding irregularities, or (k) the BAC is found to have committed any of the grounds for declaring bidding irregularities, or (l) the BAC is found to have committed any of the grounds for declaring bidding irregularities, or (m) the BAC is found to have committed any of the grounds for declaring bidding irregularities, or (n) the BAC is found to have committed any of the grounds for declaring bidding irregularities, or (o) the BAC is found to have committed any of the grounds for declaring bidding irregularities, or (p) the BAC is found to have committed any of the grounds for declaring bidding irregularities, or (q) the BAC is found to have committed any of the grounds for declaring bidding irregularities, or (r) the BAC is found to have committed any of the grounds for declaring bidding irregularities, or (s) the BAC is found to have committed any of the grounds for declaring bidding irregularities, or (t) the BAC is found to have committed any of the grounds for declaring bidding irregularities, or (u) the BAC is found to have committed any of the grounds for declaring bidding irregularities, or (v) the BAC is found to have committed any of the grounds for declaring bidding irregularities, or (w) the BAC is found to have committed any of the grounds for declaring bidding irregularities, or (x) the BAC is found to have committed any of the grounds for declaring bidding irregularities, or (y) the BAC is found to have committed any of the grounds for declaring bidding irregularities, or (z) the BAC is found to have committed any of the grounds for declaring bidding irregularities.

Each bid must be accompanied by bidder's bond equivalent to any of the following: Bond on the Approved Budget for the Contract – 2%; Cash/Certified check/Cashier's check/Manager's check/Bank draft – 1%; Surety bond callable upon demand issued by Surety or Insurance Company duly certified by the Insurance Commission as authorized to issue such security. Warrant Security must be denominated in Philippine Peso and posted in favor of the procuring entity.

The bid must be valid for 120 calendar days from the date of the bid opening. Bids submitted after the deadline shall not be accepted. Bidders may withdraw their bids prior to the deadline of submission thereof. Withdrawal of bids after the deadline shall result in the forfeiture of the bidder's bid security

OPEN LETTER TO PRESIDENT AQUINO

Regarding Potential Disastrous Effects of SBMA's Common Use Service Area Fee (CUSA)

Dear President Aquino,

The Subic Bay Freeport Chamber of Commerce (SBFCC), on behalf of locators, residents, and other stakeholders, writes your good office because of the potentially ruinous effects, not only to locators but also to the government and even to the ordinary working man, of the Common Use Service Area Fee (CUSA) to be soon implemented by the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA). We have already written SBMA about our opposition to the CUSA but still need your help and intervention.

The CUSA, in brief, intends to charge locators and residents of the Freeport for basic municipal services including law enforcement, firefighting, street cleaning, and street lighting. These same basic municipal services are normally provided by the national government, the local government units, and government agencies from taxes. The CUSA is attempting to charge fees that are already being paid by locators, residents, and workers through mandated taxes.

The main rationale by the SBMA for the CUSA is to increase its revenues to cut its losses. But its being financially in the red is not new. In fact, the SBMA, under several different administrations, never had any considerable net income since its inception in 1992. It is expected that SBMA will only start to generate a lot more income when long-term leases start to expire and the properties get turned over back to SBMA for re-leasing at higher rates.

The Subic Bay Freeport itself, through the Bureau of Customs (BoC) and Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), remits billions of pesos to the national government annually (P25 billion total from 2008 to 2011). However, the SBMA does not get any share from such taxes and thus is now mired in debt and can barely sustain its operations from its own income from leases, port operations, regulatory fees, and other revenues.

While some members of the SBFCC are keen on helping the SBMA resolve its financial problems, they find the CUSA rates outrageously high. The SBMA is looking at generating millions of pesos yearly from CUSA revenue which it will charge additionally to locators and residents on top of rent charges. This massive additional burden is beyond the capacity of a number of locators to pay. Some have already intimated that they are seriously considering closing down or transferring somewhere else. This will have potentially devastating effects on many workers who would be out of jobs—there are currently more than 90,000 workers inside the Subic Bay Freeport, three times as many when it was still a US Naval Base. The national government might also be affected because of expectedly lower collection from taxes when this happens.

Further, instead of stimulating investors' interests by lowering the cost of doing business, which is what a Freeport should be, the CUSA might do exactly the opposite.

We do understand the predicament of the SBMA. We feel for the administration of Chairman Garcia and the problems they inherited. It is not difficult to see the good intentions behind the CUSA. We, however, think that the solution to the problem might actually exacerbate instead of solve it. We think that the more feasible solution requires intervention by the national government which gets billions of pesos from the Subic Bay Freeport in the first place.

The Subic Bay Freeport Chamber of Commerce proposes, therefore, that SBMA's debts from its loans be partly subsidized temporarily by the national government through its income from BIR and BoC collections from the Subic Bay Freeport. We also propose that the implementation of the proposed CUSA be rescinded so as not to scare off investors. We hope that by doing these, the Freeport will continue to flourish and eventually provide increased income to the government in the long run.

On our part, we will continue to work with SBMA in streamlining processes that can save money; we will continue to help in eliminating graft and corruption using your battle cry of *doong matuwid*; and we will help in encouraging more investments to come in.

We hope that you can give our request due consideration.

Yours truly,

Subic Bay Freeport Chamber of Commerce

Brig. Gen. JOSE "TOTOY" M. AQUINO MNSA (Ret)

Died in the grace of our Lord on September 10, 2012 at the age of 74.

His bereaved wife, **Cora**, children **Michael**, **Joey** and **Kathleen**, grandchildren, **John Keihl, Y2, Thamia** and **Kaith**, Brothers and Sisters, Nephews and Nieces and other relatives request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at their residence at 18 P. Zamora St., Batangas City.

Interment will be on Sunday, September 16, 2012 at Eternal Gardens Memorial Park, Balagtas, Batangas City after the 1:00 P.M. funeral mass at Basilica of the Immaculate Concepcion, Batangas City.

"Even when I walk through a dark valley, I feel no harm. For you are at my side, your rod and staff give me courage..." Psalm 23:4

TIM 4: 7-8

"I have done my best in the race, I have seen the full distance and I have kept the faith. I have finished the course, and now there is waiting for me the garment of righteousness, prize of the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but to all who want with love for Him to appear."

In Memorian
of
the late

Carmen "Lita" Gonzalez – Estrada

Born : November 28, 1936
Died : Sept. 11, 2012

Loving wife of Rafael, mother of Ramon, Carmela, Emma, Rafael Jr., Raoul, Rolando (deceased), Rosanna, Reuben (deceased) and Raymundo.

Her family, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, children-in-law and members of her community, the Magsaysay Pangkomon, requests the pious reader to say a prayer for the repose of her soul.

The body lies in state at Christ The King Chapel in Antonino will be on Saturday, Sept. 15, 2012 at high noon at the Homage Park after the Eucharistic mass at 9:00 a.m. at Christ the King Church.

P.S.
Dear Readers, Any donations can be sent to BRIGHT FOUNDATION, INC. in favor of Mater Dei - a retreat house for priests, nuns and underprivileged school children.

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SUMMON BY PUBLICATION

[illegible] Civil Case No. [illegible] August, 2012

[illegible] Branch [illegible]

[illegible] Makati City

[illegible] Makati City

[illegible] Makati City

GADGETS Gallery

Top Facebook engineer to grace Globe Labs Developers Day

CW home depot

PUBLIC SAVINGS ANNOUNCEMENT
for Flood-Affected Customers

To our dear valued CW Home Depot Customers,

A large area of Metro Manila and its nearby provinces has been recently impacted by flood caused by the southwest monsoon locally known as the "Habagat", resulting in massive damages to houses and businesses. CW Home Depot has come up a way of extending help to homeowners and business owners by having a one-week sale which will commence on September 10 to September 16, 2012. We are giving a minimum of

10% DISCOUNT ON ALL ITEMS & UP TO 50% DISCOUNT ON SELECTED ITEMS

inside our expansive DIY Superstore, Home Interior Superstore and Home Appliance Superstore for cash and carry transactions. Aside from cash purchases, we are extending the same discount also to straight credit card payments (zero percent installment card payments are excluded). The discount cannot be applied in conjunction with any other existing promo discount.

This is our way of helping the communities where CW Home Depot is located in to ensure its homeowners get the best savings in doing their home repairs in these difficult times.

For more information visit our website on
www.cwhomedepot.com

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Top Facebook engineer to grace

Globe Labs Developers Day

From page A1

6 TOP engineer of the highly popular social networking site Facebook is set to speak before the country's dynamic developer community during the "Globe Labs Developers Day" on Sept. 15, providing a rare opportunity for young moneymakers and app developers to connect with and learn from the world-respected tech guru.

Jimmy Pearce, Facebook head of Developer Advocacy, will be in the Philippines this week to discuss apps development using Facebook tools and application programming interfaces (APIs), as well as to provide an overview and walkthrough of Facebook Platform, Open Graph beta, Apps and Games Developments, and Facebook App Center.

"Since Facebook is one of the most visited sites in the country with 29.1 percent reach rate, we decided to launch an event that could kick-start developers into creating applications using Facebook APIs and give them the opportunity to engage with their prospective users. We are very honored that this time, we have Jimmy Pearce as our guest speaker," said Michelle Santos, manager for developer relations of Globe Labs Digital Media.

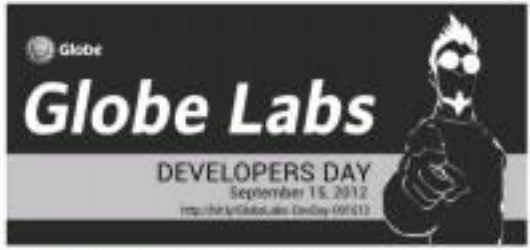
Aside from the technical session with Pearce, "Globe Labs Developers Day" will also set aside a "Show and Share" time to allow up-and-coming local developers to showcase their products, network with other people in the industry, and potentially gain funding from investors.

Among those to be featured during the event are Nine Space, a now popular free Filipino Environmental Awareness app developed by Indigo Entertainment for a Philippine-based power generation, distribution, retail and power services company; Ebist Facebook API, which is one of the best ways for a website to connect to Facebook, to be presented by Christian Blanquera of Opensource Japancountry; and Taghuddle of software engineer Nikko Bautista, which aggregates photos for hashtags from Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

To register and know more about the "Globe Labs Developers Day" event, visit http://bit.ly/GlobeLabs_DevDay_091512.

"All in all, we are supporting local talent to reach their full potential by offering this safe environment for them to thrive. Globe loves apps and aims a lot for the developers. That is why the company takes great pride in helping them succeed," Santos added.

Launched by Globe Telecom in 2008, Globe Labs is an innovative community composed of about 17 professionals, students and business managers, with primary focus on mobile and future technologies which can be later on deployed to the market.



Better headsets to boost productivity

By Marlet Salazar

MOBILITY is the operative word these days when people start talking about productivity. And mobile workers demand much better use of their time than sweating their bags for a ringing phone.

Jabra, a brand by GN Store Nord, recently launched its new headset product with new features that will allow mobile phone users to do some multitasking. Jabra Supreme UC is an improvement of Jabra Supreme which was launched last year.

Jabra Supreme UC boasts of a 10-meter range made possible by a micro dongle. Jabra received awards from CES Innovations, IF product design award, Red Dot Mobile Device Accessory, the T3 Gold Award, and CNET Editor's in the past recognizing its innovation to improve headset range and design.

The micro dongle not only increases communication range but also improves synchronization of phone books and music from personal computers and mobile phones. It's a plug and play device with no installation required.

One of the key additions to the Jabra Supreme UC from its predecessor is the digital noise feature. It automatically turns off when the user receives a call.

Jabra Supreme UC offers HD voice sound quality. It also utilizes active noise cancellation technology that removes ambient noise which annoy contact with a noisy environment or acoustic-challenged.

According to Ralph Ede, managing director of GN Netcom in South Asia, it can also eliminate noise from the other end or caller.

Another innovation in the docking or charging vehicle protects or guards the user against the sudden loud noise. An example is the high-pitched noise of a fax machine when the caller inadvertently dials a fax number.

Jabra Supreme UC also works with voice command, raising mobility and productivity one level higher. "You don't have to pick up your device," Ede said. "For me, that's one step in productivity."

Lennert Sandoval, country manager of GN Netcom in the Philippines, demonstrated how one can accept or reject calls just by voice command. All steps on the go individuals can make maximum use of this new Bluetooth headset from Jabra.

It supports different languages but for the Philippines, users can use English.

Jabra Supreme UC's software can also be upgraded remotely in the future. When new updates or bug systems are upgraded, some devices may also need to be updated, said Ede.

Ede explained why Bluetooth devices are now mass users for mobile employees and users. "People are embracing smartphones and tablets thus mobile device is like a mobile lifestyle," he said. "One can reduce the number of devices to carry. It also eliminates the inconvenience of using cables," adds Ede.

JABRA Supreme UC

With these devices, people are mixing their personal with professional lives. "Professional class services with unified communications (UC) are rolling out on mobile devices," he said.

The bring your own device (BYOD) trend is fast gaining ground thus leading to further consumerization.

Ede said that the Jabra Supreme UC can also work with other Bluetooth devices compatible with Bluetooth version 1, 1 or higher. The parent of Flip Jaime now makes running the Bluetooth headset on and off much easier.

Jabra Supreme UC is compatible with other UC applications such as Microsoft, Cisco, Avaya, and Skype. It is now available at about P6,000 ($139).

Mobile app developed for delegates to 4th IOS

Delegates can manage schedules, receive updates

PHILSOFT, the International Outsourcing Summit (IOS) in Manila this October can use a mobile application for mobile users of handheld devices to keep abreast of changes in the agenda, manage their schedules, and take advantage of networking opportunities.

Analysts report that an increasing number of information technology and business process outsourcing (IT-BPO) companies are using paperless, eco-friendly ways to avoid using the value of cloud, mobile, and social media technologies in their operations.

Many firms are using these technologies to streamline the value chain and help reduce capital outlay and operational costs, according to McKinsey & Company. They are also seeing these technologies add value and foster service innovation.

As a result, ITOPO and global industry players (GIC) are expected to offer clients and organizations these innovative services because they can strengthen and expand customer relationships. Service innovation—rather than cost efficiency—is the objective.

Organizers of the IOS have developed a mobile application that lets you provide these benefits for the 500 delegates expected to attend the annual industry event in October. They aren't just promoting innovation, they're demonstrating innovation.

The Business Processing Association of the Philippines (BPAP), the umbrella association for the IT-BPO and GIC industry in the Philippines, is expanding the fourth IOS from Oct. 7 to 9. Aside from the 500 delegates, BPAP says 30 speakers and panelists will also attend the event.

Delegates, speakers, and panelists are expected primarily to consist of influential IT-BPO leaders, experts, and analysts from around the globe.

Mobile app for IOS delegates

The mobile app for delegates provides event, agenda updates, information on networking opportunities for the summit. "Outsourcing Summit 2012" is a free mobile app available for download in the Google Play Store, and soon, the iTunes App Store.

"It will provide features that guide delegates through the event," said Raymond Lacdan, BPAP executive director for industry affairs. "Delegates can use the app to identify sessions they don't want to miss and organize them using the 'My Schedule' feature."

The upcoming event hosts leaders across to Twitter, where they can receive up-to-the-minute tweets on the sessions and discussions, and join in the conversation using their personal Twitter accounts and the hashtag, #IOSPH.

Other features include access to news and blogs; information on sponsors, partners, and exhibitors; and a map to the venue. Delegates can download the IOS app from the Google Play store now and from the iTunes App Store beginning Sept. 18.

For more information on the summit, visit www.internationalconvergence.com.

Globe sees 'superfast' speeds for Tattoo with 4G LTE

GLOBE Telecom promises its consumers the experience of 4G LTE services this year. According to Peter Hutton, senior advisor for consumer business of Globe, the telco's 4G LTE will be launched this September.

The 4G LTE (fourth generation long-term evolution) system is expected to provide faster speeds for mobile and broadband access to smartphones, computers with USB wireless modems, and other mobile devices. It supports all-to-all Internet Protocol (IP) based communications.

Globe's 4G LTE will be launched in its Tattoo brand. While the roll-out happens in September, mobile customers will experience this by the fourth quarter of this year, according to Globe.

This key network launch of Globe leverages its comprehensive nationwide multiservice infrastructure with an additional 12,000 kilometers of fiber optic cable being rolled out to enable 4G LTE services for the majority of its cell sites. Globe says that this will allow for the deployment of "super fast" data speeds.

Consumers can expect to experience not just faster connections but also almost instant upload connections. Market Guy is the first location to experience 4G LTE but it will expand quickly to over major cities in Metro Manila and regions.

"Globe already has the largest 4G network in the country with over 2,700 4G base stations through its leading WiMAX and HSPA+ services," said Bichoy. "Now with 4G LTE, it will extend the lead as the country's best wireless broadband network. Through our network transformation, we are focused on improving the experience of our customers—faster, more reliable and better quality."

Globe was first to introduce 4G technology in the Philippines in 2009, with the deployment of its WiMAX broadband network.

In the same year, Globe, in partnership with its principal SingTel, began testing 4G LTE in the country, with speeds clocking up to 180 mbps. Field tests of 4G LTE by Globe and SingTel in highly populated areas in Metro Manila yielded up to 88 mbps download data throughput rate.

Last year, Globe launched its 4G Evolved High-Speed Packet Access (HSPA+) network. To date, Globe has a total of 2,700 4G sites across the country. By mid-2012, that number will increase to over 4,300 sites. —Mavic Salazar

Acer projector for large crowds

ACER P7203

ACER has come up with the P7203 projector specifically designed for installation in mid-size luxe, large conference and class rooms and offers a very bright, high contrast projection without darkening the room.

The unit has an awe-inspiring 3000 ANSI lumen brightness level, perfect for even large venue use where a bright room and large screen size are a must. The P7203B features a detailed XGA resolution, perfect for large screen sizes and detailed pictures, video, or presentations.

Acer Color Boost+ technology with true 9-segment color wheel and Brilliant Color DLP DarkChip offers the latest standard in digital projection optimized color performance for rich, vivid and brilliant colors. The 1.15x zoom lens allows for a larger image at a closer distance or a smaller one from further away, giving you more flexibility with placement.

Although the P7203B is incredibly powerful, it is also super quiet with an amazing noise level of just 29dB in economic mode and 34dB at high brightness mode. In an added bonus, the P7203B includes vertical and horizontal lens shift, allowing you to adjust the image without the need for keystoning up to 33 percent (H) and 20 percent (V) both vertical and Horizontal Keystone correction (+/-40 degrees vertical, +/-30 degrees horizontal) allowing easy setup for an off-center installation.

With its side-loading lamp design, lamp replacement is trouble-free even while the projector remains ceiling mounted. The keystone correction button eliminates distortions resulting from elevated or side projection.

For wireless convenience, you can also use the remote desktop feature to access content from any PC that's connected to the projector via LAN or Wi-Fi. What's more, the P7 Series compatible with Crestron Network System so you can control the projector over LAN or Wi-Fi.

For presenters with better things to do than waiting for a projector to cool down, Acer has added "Instant Pack" to the features list on the P7203B. Instant Pack allows you to unplug and pack up without having to wait around for cooling.

Acer's projectors are ideal to permanently mount on the ceiling. The P7203B comes with the required base mounting holes so can be ceiling mounted. Acer's projectors are to promote green light source technology without compromising performance.

Acer projectors are distributed in the Philippines through MSI-ECS. For product information and availability, please e-mail marketing@msi-ecs.com.ph. SRP: P79,900.

Microsoft showcases practical IT applications

By Mayee Salazar

MICROSOFT Philippines is looking at strengthening Filipinos' productivity by maximizing the use of technology as it kicked off the "IT: It's More Fun in the Philippines" campaign last Sept. 10.

The 13-city roadshow will run for two months and will showcase practical applications of technology homegrown. Microsoft's three Most Valuable Professionals (MVP) chosen among the best in the tech world will hold talks in different communities nationwide. Ford Philippines' 2013 Ranger will be the official vehicle.

In General Santos City, Microsoft will launch the Rapid Signal Receiver which transmits signals through wireless technology in under-nourished work...

Recently, Davao was in the news because of its first mobile transportation fare payment with TrueMoney Card "Isumisi and the IT company will further strengthen it.

In Cagayan de Oro, Microsoft partners with CEPALCO Solar Power Plant. The plant uses 8,500 solar panels.

Iloilo benefits in the Automated Rain Gauges, a real-time data weather system that helps forecast strong rains and flash floods.

"Microsoft Philippines aims to increase its focus on empowering Filipino-owned businesses and to help them achieve global competitiveness through productivity solutions and continuous innovations," said Kattie Capellan-Ilagan, Microsoft Philippines' first woman managing director.

Ilagan said that the company is tapping the help of local government units to reach the grassroots level.

"We will also go around the schools nationwide to show how they can optimize the use of technology," Capellan-Ilagan said.

"In the Philippines, we are proud to partner with Microsoft in their nationwide campaign and showcase our local ISVAC and other firm in segment-smart technologies," said Randy Ledger, president of Ford Group Philippines.

Gigabyte gives new meaning ...

From page 1.9

GIGABYTE P25GG Gaming Notebook

GIGABYTE U2442 Ultrabook

GIGABYTE U2442N Ultrabook

...but it is its U24-92V 10-in Pro Hush consist of which is a sleek and stunning 14" ultrabook that provides fantastic performance with its Ivy Bridge based GeForce GT 640M graphics chip paired with a 3rd Generation Intel Core processor.

"At the forefront of Gigabyte's commitment to cutting-edge innovation, this model has a striking design that exudes remarkable style, combined with powerful features that herald a new era in mobile computing. It has a slim form factor, only 18.3mm to 21mm thick and weighs just 1.39kg, making it a fantastic choice for portability," Lyu said.

And despite its thin and light profile, this ultrabook is equipped with high-powered features normally found in much larger notebooks.

It comes with a powerful 3rd Generation Intel Core i5 standard voltage processor, an HD+ (1600x900) LED backlight display that produces bright, vivid images, and an NVidia Kepler-based GeForce GT 640M discrete graphics processing unit with NVidia Optimus technology.

It also features a dual air-vent design (one for CPU and one for GPU) that efficiently eliminates heat and keeps noise to a minimum even during long hours of usage.

Speed is not a problem as it comes with a high-speed 128GB mSATA SSD. Its massive storage option also provides high performance with its huge 750GB/1TB HDD dual storage option.

Its convenient light-weaving backlit keyboard provides an enjoyable typing experience in all settings. It also offers great connectivity with features such as USB 3.0, Bluetooth 4.0 and 2T2R Double Antenna Wi-Fi.

Blazing-fast gaming notebook

Gigabyte also redefines mobile gaming with the introduction of its P25GG model, a slim and stylish notebook that packs incredible power to give consumers full gaming and entertainment experience.

This 15.6" multimedia notebook features a sleek and amazing design that is reminiscent of a premium sports car. It also comes with a 3rd Generation Intel Core i7 Quad-Core processor and an Nvidia GeForce GTX 680M GPU featuring the Nvidia Kepler architecture. Aside from offering blazing gaming performance, the Nvidia graphics card is perfect for handling even extreme multitasking and graphics-intensive games.

Gamers don't have to worry about battery life because all the power of this gaming notebook is supported by the inclusion of Nvidia Optimus technology which maximizes battery life by automatically switching on and off the GPU so that it runs only when needed.

Other incredible features are its Blu-Ray read/write drive and a 3cell Sumo Bolt DD-GEO backlit screen that is great for crisp media playback. In addition, it also has four dual-channel stereo speakers and a woofer speaker using THX TruStudio Pro technology that delivers a cinematic-like audio experience for a delight-ful music, movies and gaming experience.

And there's more to enhance your gaming experience in this superb gaming notebook! There is a choice of a high performing 720Mbps 1650 or a speedy 300, two USB 3.0 ports and HDMI. The unique and stylish heat sink design with dual air vents (one for the processor and one for the GPU) provides an excellent cooling effect even after many hours of gaming.

When interrupted, you can also resume faster with this gaming notebook with its new Intel rapid start technology. System restore is hassle-free with its smart recovery feature; connection is also fast with its energy efficient Bluetooth 4.0 technology and you can transfer data up to 10 times faster with its ultra-fast USB 3.0.

These two notebook models are available in the market since last last month.

Headquartered in Taiwan, Gigabyte Technology Co. Ltd. only began its research on notebook design in 2008. It has branch offices located in 20 countries around the world.

Gigabyte was founded as a small research and development team in 1986 and has since taken a position as one of the world's top motherboard manufacturers. In addition to motherboards and graphics cards, Gigabyte further expanded its product portfolio to include notebook and desktop PCs, datacenter servers, networking products, mobile handsets, and home entertainment devices to serve needs facet of the digital life in the home and office.

Smart's array of Androids remains unmatched

FILIPINOS looking for the right smartphone need not look further than the newest Smart lineup as wireless leader Smart Communications, Inc. (Smart) continues to offer the best selection of Android devices in the country.

With choices ranging from entry-level phones in high-end tablets, Smart makes available the latest gadgets at bargain prices that fit any budget.

Topping the list of amazing devices are the Samsung Galaxy S3, the HTC One X, and the Samsung Galaxy Tab 7.0 Plus, which are all available for free on Smart Unli Data Plan 2000.

The Samsung Galaxy S3, fast being recognized by technology critics worldwide as the "best Android phone ever made," With its lovely quad-core processor and stunning SAMOLED screen, users will have a hard time pinching this gorgeous gizmo down whether they're at work or at play.

The equally impressive HTC One X, meanwhile, comes in unibody polycarbonate shell and high resolution camera, which easily rivals the speed and picture quality of larger, more advanced digital SLRs.

Lastly, the Samsung Galaxy Tab 7.0 Plus, a 7-inch tablet that features a 1.2GHz processor and High-Speed Packet Access Plus (HSPA+) connectivity, allows for unparalleled on-the-go productivity.

HSPA+ allows for speeds of up to 21 Mbps making it the single-connection technology for multimedia-capable mobile devices. With such bandwidth, mobile users can surf the web, upload photos, and download their favorite mobile apps and movies seamlessly and hassle-free.

"With such an impressive selection, there has never been a better time to switch to Smart," said Smart's chief wireless advocate Orlando Ilea. "After all, what good is a great phone if it's not on the best network?" he added.

For those on a budget, Smart also offers the QWERTY-equipped G1 Optimus Pro for free with a Extra Like Plan 888 and the handy Neophone S01 powered by the SmartNet suite of applications with a Neophone Plan 349.

"Filipinos have spoken and they have chosen Android," said Ilea. "We have the widest selection of Android devices in the Philippines and we are proud to offer the best services alongside these best devices as the country's best network," he added.

Ilea alludes to the fact that Smart has taken keen interest in an April 2012 study by research and analytics firm GfK, which states that the Google-powered mobile operating software (OS) now powers over smartphones in the country with a command-ing 81.2 percent market share.

The relatively acclaimed OS

HTC One X (l) and Samsung Galaxy Tab 7 Plus

SAMSUNG Galaxy S3

enjoyed a near threefold increase from 2011, officially dethroning a long-time market leader and competitor for the first time in history.

GfK's study further reveals that despite average smartphone prices being pegged below P7,500, close to 95 percent of those are HSPA+-capable alcohol to users expensive handsets.

"Smartphones have come a long way, but for us to realize our vision of putting the power of the Internet into the hands of every Filipino, we still need to be more aggressive," he said.

"We believe that Android will help us lead the charge," he smiled.

For more information about Smart's other postpaid offers, visit www.smart.com.ph/postpaid or visit the Smart store nearest you.

Gigabyte

gives new meaning to ultrabooks, redefines mobile gaming

By Joel V. Pilgos

GIGABYTE, known the world over as one of the IT industry's top motherboard and graphics card manufacturers, entered the Philippine market last month with its introduction of two notebooks—one it claims would deliver the truly "ultra" in an ultrabook, and another a PC gaming powerhouse that comes with ultimate portability.

During its launch held recently, Vincent Liu, special assistant general manager and division director at Gigabyte, said that their new devices promise to deliver an uncompromising balance of portability and high performance gaming to users.

"Today's traditional notebooks are geared for performance while the very light and very slim ultrabooks are designed for greater mobility. But these ultrabooks are unfazed on performance. They don't have the usual features that are not in our traditional notebooks," he said.

Liu emphasized: "Gigabyte's ultrabook offers balanced performance in size, power, and even long battery life. You don't have to sacrifice something in terms of experience with your ultrabook. On the other hand, our gaming notebook provides the portability which gamers were dreamed in their laptops."

Balanced performance

Gigabyte's first foray in the local mar-

GIGABYTE

GIGABYTE P2532 Gaming Notebook

Introducing the new Bose Lifestyle 135 home entertainment system

Wide home theater sound. Slim home theater speaker.

Imagine the home theater sound you want without a number of questions. It's all made possible by a Bose innovation that delivers spacious sound as wide as your room. Have one visible speaker that fits neatly beneath your TV and is wireless. Introducing AcoustiMass module. And with the Unify intelligent integration system, your attached entertainment sources work nearly as a single system. This exclusive Bose technology enables the Lifestyle 135 system to use both the remote control and navigation menus to make the system so easy to use, you may not even need the instructions. Enjoy up to six HD video and audio sources – such as your Blu-ray Disc player, cable box and gaming system – plus your iPod or iPhone, with proprietary Bose technology that customizes the audio to your room's acoustics, so the system sounds as good as it can in addition, this system can be expanded to be part of a whole home or multi-room music solution with Bose link technology. Hear the Lifestyle 135 system for yourself and discover how Bose can change the way you think about home theater.

- Wide, spacious home theater sound – made possible by an exclusive Bose innovation.
- Consists of a single, visible speaker and a hideaway wireless AcoustiMass module, making it easy to set up and enjoy right away.
- Easily connects to and controls additional sources, such as a Blu-ray Disc player, with exclusive Bose Unify technology.
- Customizes its sound to the size and shape of the room it's in – made possible by the proprietary AESPS (acoustic expression system).
- The elegant speaker array visually complements a flat-screen television – whether wall-mounted or placed on a table.
- A wireless link to the AcoustiMass module helps to ensure an uncluttered appearance in the room.
- Dock for iPod/iPhone and built-in AM/FM tuner provide greater options for enjoying music.
- Works with other Bose speakers and systems to deliver sound throughout the home with Bose link technology.

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